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High note

Village choir celebrating half a century in harmony

See Page 20



Bid to save post office supported by council

EFFORTS to save Willenhall's main post office have won the support of the full council.

Campaigners have voiced fears over a potential downgrading of the post office in John Street. But on Monday councillors backed a notice of motion calling for the town's main branch to stay.

It was put forward by Labour councillors Carl Creaney, Gareth Illmann-Walker, Sean Coughlan and Diane Coughlan.

The motion states: "Council wishes to place on record its opposition to the process of privatisation taking place within the Royal Mail and the threat to the 'six day, one price goes anywhere' delivery."

We believe that these proposals will lead to higher prices and a worse service for Walsall residents."

Councillor Sean Coughlan said: "I am pleased that we have got the full support of the council. I hope that the Crown Post Office service will listen to what Walsall councillors are saying."

Meeting

It is one of 70 Crown Post Office branches, or those run directly by the Post Office, earmarked to be franchised.

Post Office bosses had suggested the post office could be relocated within a nearby shop but residents said no other shops in the area could cope with the volume of customers it attracts.

The regeneration scrutiny panel are to ask a representative of the Post Office to attend a meeting to discuss the proposals.

Elsewhere in the borough, the post office in Bloxwich is extending its opening hours following a refurbishment next month.

The branch will need to close for almost two weeks during the redesign programme which is anticipated to get under way on October 14.

The new-look post office in Market Place will open for an extra nine hours a week when it re-opens again on October 25 at 1pm.

DECISION IS DUE ON 160 HOMES

MORE than 160 homes are poised to be built under regeneration plans which are set to transform Willenhall and Darlaston

Three sites have been earmarked for residential developments with a mixture of houses and flats being proposed for two parcels of land in Willenhall and another in Darlaston.

The schemes are being recommended to get the final go-ahead from Walsall Council chiefs today (Thursday).

Former industrial buildings will be demolished in St Anne's Road to make way for 55 properties. The estate includes a combination of two bedroom flats and two to six bedroom houses.

The vacant industrial premises in Willenhall are in a poor state of repair and some have already been partly demolished.

There have been two letters of objection raising concerns about it being an industrial area, the road being in poor repair and traffic calming necessary due to traffic volumes, congestion and parking.

Mr Elsworthy said: "The loss of the existing buildings would represent an improvement to current amenity levels with residential properties improving the overall environment in terms of noise and disturbance."

Planning bosses are also poised to agree to work on 39 properties in a scheme to transform a former scrap metal yard.

Homes have been approved in principle for the Monmore Recycling site in Noose Lane.

A mixture of 55 houses and 12 apartments will be created on the old Jebron Works site in Bright Street to bring the largely vacant land back into use. The business, which was involved in the manufacturing of doors, went into administration in December 2010 with the loss of 65 jobs.

Since then a specialist consultant has been on site to assess the need to deal with contamination. This would require work on the site over a three month period. Councillors are being recommended to agree to changes to the plan conditions to allow work to be carried out.

Report by Craig Hughes

Walsall-based Chamberlin & Hill bought the assets of the 85-year-old Jebron Ltd for £162,000.

One letter has been received from the Dudley & Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust, who run the Kingshill Centre in School Street, raising concerns that staff may not be able to park.

But members of the planning committee are being recommended to grant permission saying it would have no impact on nearby households.

Mr Elsworthy said: "The loss of the existing buildings would represent an improvement to current amenity levels with residential properties improving the overall environment in terms of noise and disturbance."

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The Morrisons branch in Walsall has undergone refurbishment which includes improved bakery and butcher facilities.

The store dates back more than 20 years having been built on the old Saddlers ground at Wallows Lane.

Bosses say the work had been carried out without the need to close the store.

As part of the investment, Morrisons has revamped the inside of the super-

£2m makeover at supermarket



Morrisons employee Tina Scryven and deputy store manager Chris Lashford at the revamped store's green grocery

A SUPERMARKET which was built on the site of the former Walsall Football Club ground has undergone a £2 million revamp.

The Morrisons branch in Walsall has undergone refurbishment which includes improved bakery and butcher facilities.

The store dates back more than 20 years having been built on the old Saddlers ground at Wallows Lane.

Bosses say the work had been carried out without the need to close the store.

As part of the investment, Morrisons has revamped the inside of the super-

market to reflect its focus on traditional skills. This includes installing a dough table at the front of the bakery so customers can see staff making bread along with a butchers' counter so customers can watch staff at work on tasks such as sausage making.

Flower

The new-look store also boasts the latest in misting technology to keep fruit and vegetables fresher for longer along with a new flower shop and pizza counter.

It has taken about four months to complete the overall project.

Store general manager Stuart Ruane said: "The transformation is incredible - the new counters look fantastic.

"The whole store feels much brighter and more spacious.

It's really important that we do our bit for the environment and the new systems ensure that the store is more than fit for the future."

The supermarket replaced the old Fellows Park ground when the football club moved to its new stadium at Bescot Crescent.

£1m plan to revamp Gala Baths for future

WALSALL'S Gala Baths could receive a makeover worth up to £1 million to create a modern leisure complex, amid fears it is outdated and could close.

A full cost review of investing in the town centre swimming baths is to be carried out by Walsall Council after it was backed by members of the full council on Monday.

A 2,000-signature petition was collected by campaigners who fear the baths in Tower Street, which has two swimming pools and fitness gyms and studios, may be closed down.

Councillor Pete Smith, of Blakenall ward, put forward a resolution requesting a review. "An investment of £1m may ensure another 10 year lease of life given to this town centre site," he added.

Councillors voted overwhelmingly in favour of the proposal to see the main pool remodelled and popular brine pool maintained.

Walsall Council leader Mike Bird told councillors: "At no time has anybody said that the Gala Baths will close. It is a myth. We are working on a strategy to develop leisure facilities for the next 20 to 30 years."

Accident on danger road

A GIRL was injured when hit by a car in an accident on a road where parents are calling for a lollipop warden.

The 12-year-old was taken to Manor Hospital following the collision in Park Hall Road, Walsall. Emergency services were called at 3.30pm on Friday and her injuries were not believed to be life-threatening.

More than 500 parents have signed a petition calling for a crossing warden near to Park Hall junior and infant schools.

In a separate incident, a car rolled over and hit two parked cars in Bloxwich Lane, Walsall, at 5.25pm on Friday. The driver and passenger received minor injuries.

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Student sentenced to seven years over Ben's death



A STUDENT is starting a seven-year custodial sentence for the manslaughter of 16-year-old Ben Morutare – despite denying he delivered the fatal blow.

Andy Ly, aged 18, was handed the seven-year term in a young offenders' institution at Wolverhampton Crown Court. He pleaded guilty to the manslaughter of Walsall teenager Ben.

The youngster died from a single stab wound to the leg after a large and violent fracas involving more than 40 people outside the former Old Comrades Club near Fenton Street in Smethwick on July 27 last year.

Five others, all aged between 18 and 20, were also jailed for their parts in the incident (see below).

Sentencing them, Deputy High Court Judge Sir Geoffrey Grigson told

the group immediate custodial terms were 'necessary' to punish them and to deter others from violence.

He told them: "Your barristers have spoken about your hopes for the future but Ben Morutare and his family have been deprived of his. It's clear from the evidence that the opportunity for violence was both looked for and welcomed."

Ly denied murder but after seven

weeks of his trial he offered a plea of guilty to manslaughter which was accepted by the prosecution. That plea was offered on the basis that he was not the one who delivered the stab wound that led to Ben's death.

The sentences come after a 10-week trial and an investigation that involved trawling through more than 1,000 hours of CCTV footage, interviewing around 1,000 people, and 35 arrests.

Killers being protected by silence and lies, says judge

THE HUNT is still on to find the person who delivered the fatal stab wound to Walsall teenager Ben Morutare, as six young men start jail terms for their roles in violence leading up to his death.

The six were all sent to young offenders' institutions for being involved in the violence that led to the death of the schoolboy.

But the police investigation is not over, with the search still taking place for the person that delivered the single, fatal blow, and for others involved in the violence.

Sentencing all of the defendants on Friday, Deputy High Court Judge Sir Geoffrey Grigson said he thought they knew who was involved. He told them: "Your silence and lies are protecting Ben's killers."

"All of you played a part in serious and violent public disorder which resulted in the death of a 16-year-old boy."

Disorder

Speaking after sentences were passed, investigating officer Detective Chief Inspector Bob Hazel called for anyone who knew anything about the killing to come forward.

He said: "The judge remarked that all of the defendants knew who inflicted the fatal blow. I'm absolutely convinced that the people we had on trial were involved in the disorder, but there were 300 to 400 people at the club where the incident took place, and at least 40 in the group that attacked Ben."

The youngster, from Holden Crescent, Coalpool, was stabbed in the leg after violence flared outside a birthday party at the former Smethwick Home Guard and Old Comrades Club on July 27 last year.

He and two friends were attacked by a group of at least 40 youths.

Ben, who was just five feet two inches tall, was fatally stabbed while trying to protect his two friends. He was taken to Birmingham Children's Hospital where he died several hours later.

Following sentencing, Detective Inspector Gary Plant from West Midlands Police's Major Investigation Review Team said: "The attack on little Ben was a despicable crime with a tragic and unnecessary loss of life which sees six men now facing time behind bars."

"Together with his friends and hundreds of other teenagers, Ben attended a birthday party that was advertised via social media. A small minority of people singled him out and attacked him, all because he, and his friends, were not local. Ben was a small boy who, when seen on CCTV alongside his attackers, looks like a small child by com-



Victim – Ben Morutare tried to protect his friends



Ben Morutare, circled left, seconds before he was stabbed, Andy Ly circled right



Dale Reid, of Ladywood



Omar Robinson, aged 19



Jordan Campbell, 18



Tobias Blake, aged 20



Tahj Mills, of West Brom

parison. Even paramedics attending the scene initially believed he was 12 or 13."

Student Andy Ly, 18 from Great Colmore Street, Ladywood, was handed a seven year sentence after his guilty plea to manslaughter. He was also given a three-year sentence for violent disorder, to run concurrently.

Tahj Mills, 19 from Waterside Street in West Bromwich, and 20-year-old Tobias Blake, from Kelsall Croft, Ladywood, were each given three-and-a-half years after

being convicted of violent disorder. Blake was also found guilty of possession of an offensive weapon but was handed no separate punishment for the offence.

Omar Robinson, 19 from Rann Close, Ladywood, and 18-year-old Halesowen Town footballer Dale Reid, from Rodney Close, Ladywood, have been jailed for 28 months each for guilty pleas to violent disorder. Jordan Campbell, 18 from Portland Road, Edgbaston, has been handed 18

months for his part in the incident after being found guilty of violent disorder.

Ly and Robinson were originally on trial for Ben's murder but seven weeks into the proceedings their guilty pleas to other offences were accepted.

Ly's manslaughter plea was offered on the basis that he was not the one who stabbed Ben in the leg, but that instead he was with a group of people knowing that one of their number had a knife which they might use.

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Critic hits out at car park cost

MORE than £30,000 has been spent resurfacing a council car park while the cash-strapped authority faces having to make £100 million of savings.

The work at the front of Walsall Council House has been branded a 'waste of money' by an Independent councillor.

Resurfacing was carried out on the car park, which has 15 spaces including two for disabled people, over the summer. It has now emerged the bill was £32,000.

Independent councillor Paul Bott said the cash could have been better spent. He pays to use council car parks in the town centre rather than the spaces outside the town hall in Lichfield Street.

"Needing to save £100m, the council has got to look at everything and £32,000 for the car park at the frontage of the council house is a waste of money," he said. "If they are spending that amount of money on that car park why don't they open it up to the public on a Saturday or Sunday?"

Council leader Mike Bird said improvements were being carried out to the listed building including the car park used by visitors and councillors who pay a fee.

The council allocated more than £550,000 this year on Walsall Civic Centre along with £700,000 investment in the council house and town hall.

"People walk across that car park thinking it is a right of way. The car park was in a dangerous condition," he said.

"The law is quite clear, if it is a listed building it has to be kept to a certain standard."

Murder charge man in custody

A HUSBAND accused of murdering his wife will enter a plea in December.

Jasvir Ram Ginday has been charged with the murder of Varkha Rani, 32, whose body was found in Victory Lane, Reedswood, on September 13.

The 32-year-old was remanded in custody until December 16 by Wolverhampton Crown Court last week.

Disco for charity

A CHARITY disco night in aid of Walsall Breast Cancer Support Group is being held at Pelsall Labour Club in Church Road on Monday from 7.30 to 11pm, organised by the Lazy J Line Dance Group. £5 entry.

Residents to be consulted over road closure

RAIL bosses will meet with residents over plans to close a busy road for three months while a replacement bridge is built. It comes after campaigners called for more consultation to be held.

The bridge, in Broad Lane, Bloxwich, needs to be raised as part of a £30 million scheme to speed up the Chase line between Walsall and Rugeley. There will also be improved signals and platforms.

But more than 200 residents signed a petition to demand a temporary footbridge be provided to minimise disruption for pedestrians and to allay safety fears, along with

early road surfacing work on a side road near the bridge.

Councillors for the area had also called on rail chiefs to hold a consultation exercise in the community for families and businesses to air their views.

Bloxwich West ward representative Councillor Louise Harrison said: "The petition called for more consultation, a temporary footbridge while the work is taking place and that Cresswell Crescent's planned resurfacing is moved forward before the bridge is closed. All of which we have now got."

"Work started on Cresswell Crescent last week, Network Rail have confirmed they will build a footbridge and now they have realised details of the consultation days."

Library

Events will be held tomorrow (Friday) in Bloxwich Library (from 1 to 6pm) in Elmore Row and on the general issue of electrification on October 4 at Walsall's Council House in Lichfield Street from 11am to 7pm.

Councillor Harrison added: "Residents deserve a full consultation where they can air their views and ask any questions. Three

months is a long time for a road to be closed and it is obvious that residents will have concerns. Many people signed the petition calling for the consultation event and everyone had questions or views on the closure."

"The petition also called for a temporary footbridge so people can access both sides of the station and I'm pleased that Network Rail have also agreed to this."

The temporary footbridge will give access to both platforms for passengers using Bloxwich North station and for pedestrians but will not be available over the Christmas period.

NEWS

in brief

Hundreds attend at war memorial

MORE than 500 people flocked to a poignant service to rededicate a First World War memorial.

Comrades of the Staffordshire Regiment were among those who turned out for the special ceremony in Moxley.

The dedication ceremony marked the end of a £45,000 revamp of Moxley War Memorial.

Long-awaited work to refurbish it began in September last year and has seen new plaques installed and improved brickwork, benches and railings put in place.

The ceremony began with a service at nearby All Saints Church before The Last Post was sounded and wreaths were laid at the memorial.

New yoga studio venture launches

A FORMER secondary school teacher who began yoga classes in the attic of her Walsall home three years ago is opening a studio in Aldridge on Saturday.

Bliss Yoga & Relaxation is being set up after a £20,000 refurbishment and aims to meet growing demand for yoga and Pilates classes. Bliss will employ around 10 teachers. The studio at the front of the shopping precinct will serve Walsall, Streetly and Sutton Coldfield. It is being officially opened by Mayor of Walsall Councillor Mohammed Nazir.

Michelle said: "It's incredible to think that this all started just three years ago with me teaching six people in our attic at home."

Firearm found by children sent to lab

A GUN found by children in bushes in Walsall has been sent to a specialist laboratory to see if it has any connection to a crime.

The weapon and ammunition was discovered at Chucky Park, off Paddock Lane, and Holtshill Lane last week.

Youngsters discovered the firearm in a plastic bag in a wooded area at 4.40pm on Monday, September 16.

Rambling in the Derbyshire dales

WALSALL Ramblers will be heading to Millersdale, Derbyshire, for a 10-mile circular walk on Sunday through four dales. Non-members are welcome and should contact the walk leader on 01543 321770.

Borough facing dumped fridge and freezer menace

WALSALL is the worst borough in the Black Country for fridges and freezers being dumped at beauty spots and in the streets, following a change in rules governing disposal of the appliances.

In the last two months council chiefs in the Black Country and Staffordshire have reported a sharp rise in fridges and freezers being fly-tipped, with Walsall receiving almost 200 reports.

It is believed that some scrap collectors are collecting fridges from homes and then unloading them on land after removing the metal parts to sell on.

Foam

It comes after new rules from the Environment Agency came into force which state flammable insulating foam has to be removed before a fridge is taken to a tip.

Now the borough's environmental crime officers have vowed to bring those responsible to justice and is urging householders to dispose of waste correctly at recycling centres.

In Wolverhampton environmental health officers have reported a significant rise in the number of fridges being dumped at various locations in the city with 70 found dumped last month.

Figures show that between May and August this year the city council's public realm services cleared away a total of 91 fridges at a cost of more than £100 per appliance to the taxpayer.

Forty dumped fridges were reported in Cannock Chase in each of July and August while Lichfield District Council has removed 25 dumped fridges and freezers since the start of last month.

"There were 10 reports in Sandwell and the same number in Stafford, while Dudley Council collected 21.

Thousands raised by sunny fun runs



Ready at the start of the Walsall 10k and 5k events at the Arboretum are fancy dress wearing Chloe Ball and Charlotte Westwood with members of the Brownhills Slimming Club Leanne Ball, Lorraine Westwood and Isabel Hawkins

HUNDREDS of runners got on their marks to take part in an annual charity run at Walsall Arboretum.

Around 650 people took part in the event on Sunday which had been organised by Walsall Rotary Club.

Crowds of runners signed up for a 10k or 5k run, while others took part in the 3k family walk.

This year's event, which also allowed teams to compete for trophies, pulled in more than £17,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support, Action for Children and Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Everyone who took part received

medals and trophies were handed to those who came in first, second and third. Amongst those running the 5k race was Lorraine Westwood, of Pelsall, who was joined by her 17-year-old daughter Charlotte, who dressed as a wolf, and fellow members of the Slimming World club in Brownhills.

Inspired

The 50-year-old mother-of-one, of Marlpool Drive, said: "Three of us are members of Slimming World in Brownhills and we've lost just over 15 stone in two years. It inspired us to take part in the run. I think we've raised over £150. The weather was glorious. It's the nicest weather we've had for the run in years. We're very happy with how it went. We won't know how much has been raised until we collect all the sponsorship money, but it will be more than £17,000."

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NEWS

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



IS ANYONE surprised by this week's TUC report showing that thousands of tenants have slipped into rent arrears after being clobbered with the bedroom tax? I can't think of a more mean-spirited policy than cutting the housing benefit of people whose only crime is to live in the house their local council or housing association gave them. Everyone accepts there is a desperate shortage of family-public housing, caused largely by successive governments ripping up border controls and rewarding people for breeding like rabbits. Tenants with smaller families should be encouraged to vacate big houses they no longer need. But the way to do that is by building more one and two-bedroom homes in the area and paying tenants a sweetener of, say, £1,000 to make the move. More carrot, less stick.

□□□□□□□

SO EVERYONE was guilty but no-one is to blame. The "serious case review" into the death of four-year-old Daniel Pelka who was murdered by his mother and her partner in Coventry, says some professionals were "too optimistic" in believing Daniel's lying mother. We are told that "critical lessons" must be "translated into action". It all sounds hideously familiar. The beauty of a report like this is that it can be pulled off the shelf and used again, time after time for years to come, simply by changing the name of the dead child. A masterpiece.

□□□□□□□

FREE school meals for all under-eights? Part of me rejoices at the prospect of millions of mums no longer having to worry about the next day's sandwiches. The other part of me fears that kids who were quite happy with sarnies will now be tearfully exposed to the latest theories on what constitutes a healthy meal. Anyone for tofu and broccoli surprise, kiddies? It is a curious thing but in the days when every state-school kid was raised on a shilling's worth of braised beef, mashed potatoes and stodge pudding, we were a lot thinner and a hell of a lot fitter than today's little sofa-slugs.

□□□□□□□

INCIDENTALLY, when I use the word "mums" I of course mean all homemakers, in a non-gender-specific sort of way. You have to be so careful.

□□□□□□□

MY ABIDING memory of school dinners (now renamed "school lunches" by the interfering middle classes) is of salads suddenly appearing on the menu with an accompanying bread roll. On day one, the rolls were dry. A pal and I, both aged 10, solved the problem by pouring salad cream on them. For this spark of initiative we were both whacked on the head by a teacher. Happiest days of your life.

□□□□□□□

MONEY and justice do not mix. Thousands of motorists have been sent on speed awareness courses not because they posed any particular danger but because "safety partnerships" signed contracts with the speed-awareness industry. The latest public-order brainwave is for police to arrest drunks and hand them over to private security companies who will put them in 'drunk tanks' and charge £400 to release them. So, in effect, there is a bounty on the head of every drunk. You see the danger? At worst, there is scope for police corruption, with officers taking backhanders for every person delivered. At best, expect a sudden redefinition of the term 'drunk' to include anyone smelling vaguely of alcohol, in order to keep the drunk tanks in business. And don't expect any sympathy from your fellow citizens. The same harrumphers who believe 32mph ought to be a hanging offence also believe that a quiet pint after work is rampant alcoholism. And they have the vote.

□□□□□□□

AND would these drunk tanks, with all the attendant humiliation and publicity, be used for drunk-as-a-skunk politicians, the nobility, their offspring and so on? Or would the ruling elite be quietly taken home to sleep it off? What do you think?

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Staff seek payouts after lock jobs axed

WORKERS laid off at an historic lock-making firm are seeking compensation from their former bosses.

A total of 24 staff from Willenhall Locks and Keys met union representatives last night.

Unite regional officer Lynne Shakespeare told the workers they could be entitled to compensation over their treatment.

Eric Cooper, who worked at the

firm for 27 years, was at the meeting. He said: "We had no notification about the redundancies. We were just sent home."

Judge

"Unite has taken our cause on now. It will now go to court and will be up to the judge to decide what happens," he added.

In a shock move a total of 28 staff

were laid off at Willenhall Locks earlier this month. The Stringes Lane company has been based in the town since the late 1950s.

Mr Cooper, 63, from Willenhall, said four members of staff who were laid off had already found other jobs.

He also said no representative from Willenhall Locks was present at the meeting with Unite.

He added: "We are all still really

angry about what has happened. We've been told by Lynne that we'll know more in 12 weeks time about the court action.

"She says we could be entitled to a 30-day payout."

Willenhall Locks going into liquidation was described by Willenhall councillor Sean Coughlan as another nail in the coffin" for the town's historic lock industry.

Work on village's roads is 'overdue'

A £700,000 project to resurface and improve a main road through Pelsall is "long overdue," a councillor has said.

Roadworks are expected along Wolverhampton Road until spring during work on resurfacing, new kerbs and footways.

It is being carried out in phases and temporary traffic lights and overnight road closures are anticipated during parts of the scheme. They will not be permanently enforced but motorists have been warned of delays.

Pelsall councillor Garry Perry said: "It is one of the biggest road schemes I have known in this village for some time and is long overdue."

"I have no doubt there will be some inconvenience, it is never going to be the right time, but to minimise some of the disruption that may occur some of the work will be done on evenings and weekends."

The phase one footway work began last week and is due to take place until early November.

The carriageway reconstruction work is earmarked to begin in the second week of November.

Pledge to cut waiting times at Manor A&E

HEALTH chiefs have vowed to reduce waiting times after Walsall Manor Hospital failed to hit targets for accident and emergency patients being seen within four hours.

The Manor did not meet the 95 per cent standard set out by national health bosses, leading to fears over how staff will cope in the traditionally busy winter period.

Other hospitals in the Black Country and Staffordshire all met the benchmark.

Figures for last month showed the proportion of patients being seen at the A&E department within four hours was 94 per cent.

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust chief operating officer Jayne Tunstall said: "In August we had a larger number of patients waiting to be discharged each day than we have seen in recent months."

Partnership

"We have been working closely with social care to ensure that any delays to a patient's journey is minimised, and we have worked in partnership to ensure appropriate resources are deployed to assist with assessments of our patients."

"With winter approaching we continue to develop robust winter plans so that we can ensure a safe service to meet demand during this period, which is traditionally very demanding on both our hospital and community services."

"We are currently running a recruitment campaign that will see additional nurses in post in A&E, which will help towards relieving the pressure of

Digging the new scene



Volunteer Sandra Adams, Kane Fraser, aged 14, and his sister Amber, 12, begin to create a garden at the back of Olio Community Centre, Midland Road, Darlaston

VOLUNTEERS joined forces to transform derelict land into an attractive garden at a community centre. Around 30 people got involved in the work to create the outside space at the Olio hub in Darlaston.

The land at the back of the centre had become overgrown and a dumping ground. The site in Midland Road was cleared of trees, weeds, brambles and household waste earlier in the month.

Volunteers then spent up to 12 hours on Saturday creating the outdoor area, which includes a herb garden, play area, seating and vegetable patch.

To help the National Express Foundation donated around £900 while support with equipment was received from Darlaston Building Supplies, Hooty's and B&Q.

Chairwoman of Olio Sandra Adams said: "It looks absolutely fantastic."

Greggs gets a revamp

BAKERS Greggs has undergone a major remodel of its Quasar Centre shop on Park Street in Walsall, which has reopened as one of the business' first new-look 'bakery food-on-the-go' outlets.

Raymond Reynolds, retail director for Greggs, said: "We're really pleased to have been able to invest in Walsall. We've listened intently to our customers."

Pub is best for charity fundraising

A PUB in Walsall has won the title of most charitable pub in Great Britain.

The Longhorn in Sutton Road, was recognised in the BT Sport Great British Pub Awards 2013.

The Ember Inns pub had already won the West Midlands and Wales regional title, which allowed it go forward for the overall prize.

Karaoke

The awards are organised by industry magazine, the Publican's Morning Advertiser, and are recognised as the Oscars of the pub world.

Judges were impressed by the variety of charity events at the Longhorn including a bungee jump, karaoke night, quiz night and auction.

Manager Esther Bennett said: "We are delighted to have won the title – it is great recognition for the pub and the staff who work here."

"I am sure that our customers will be thrilled too."

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Husband tried to save his wife, 58



Home Secretary Theresa May at the mosque

A WOMAN with a long history of mental health problems was found hanged in the garage of her home, an inquest heard.

Kashmir Kaur was discovered by her husband on May 19, 2011 at their address in Dewberry Drive, Walsall.

The hearing in Smethwick was told that he tried to resuscitate her but was unable to save her.

Mrs Kaur, aged 58, had suffered from psychosis for a number of years which was being treated by medication, the inquest was told.

Senior coroner Robin Balmain gave a conclusion of death by hanging in circumstances which were not suspicious.

Mr Balmain said he could not give a conclusion of suicide as it was unclear if Mrs Kaur had intended to kill herself through her actions.

Ten jobs at 'drive-thru'

TEN new jobs have been created at a McDonald's restaurant after £150,000 improvements were made to its 'drive-thru' lanes in Walsall.

Work was carried out to install an extra lane at the branch at Reedswood Retail Park, Six Towers Road. It is operated on a 24-hour basis with drive-in for late-night customers.

Investment

Spokesman Stephen Carpenter said: "The new dual lane 'drive-thru' at Reedswood is a significant investment, through which we expect to create up to 10 additional jobs, reduce waiting times, noise and congestion."

Restaurant bosses held talks with Walsall Police five years ago following concerns over anti-social behaviour in the grounds of the site.

Town pub ban on four people

FOUR people have been banned from all pubs in Brownhills for 12 months since a new pub watch scheme was introduced just over a month ago.

Troublemakers who cause problems in one pub face a blanket ban from all of them.

Home Secretary listens to community after attacks

THE Home Secretary had defiant words for terrorists when she visited the Black Country, declaring: "You will not win."

Theresa May was in the region last week to meet with representatives of three mosques where bombs were planted and the family of an elderly Muslim man who was stabbed to death.

She wore an orange headscarf as a mark of respect and removed her leopard pattern shoes when she went into the Kanzul Iman Central Jamia Mosque in Tipton, where a nail bomb exploded in July but injured no-one as prayers had been delayed.

She was joined by representatives of Wolverhampton Central Mosque, where evidence was

found of an explosion and of the Aisha Mosque and Islamic Centre in Rutter Street, Walsall, where a bomb went off in June, meaning around 150 people were evacuated from their homes in the Caldmore area.

United

The family of 82-year-old Mohammed Saleem, stabbed to death in Small Heath in April, were also present during the Minister's visit in Tipton.

Mrs May said: "I wanted to hear from the community about these terrible terrorist attacks and the appalling murder of Mohammed Saleem."

"All these incidents have been treated extremely seriously and I hope my visit shows the

seriousness with which the Government treats these incidents. We must ensure terrorists are stopped and prevented from doing what they want, which is to divide communities."

"The community here has come together and was united and shows we stand fully against terrorists. The Government gives a clear message, regardless of what ideology is behind terrorists' attacks. We stand against terrorism and we should send a clear message to terrorists - you will not win."

Ukrainian Pavlo Lapsyshyn, a 25-year-old from Dnipropetrovsk, has been charged with the killing and with the three offences related to the explosions. He will stand trial in January.

NEWS

in brief

Charity concert is tribute to drummer

ROCK band The Charlatans are playing a one-off concert at the Royal Albert Hall in memory of drummer Jon Brookes who died last month.

The band will play the prestigious venue in aid of The Brain Tumour Charity on October 18.

The musician, from Staffordshire, died aged 44, from a brain tumour.

A statement released by the band, first formed in Walsall in the late 1980s, said: "The show will benefit The Brain Tumour Charity, which Jon was involved with during his illness. It's our way of raising money for research into and awareness of a cancer that will unfortunately affect many lives, as it has ours."

More than 200 mourners attended the father-of-three's funeral at Christ Church in Burntwood.

Royal guest will open new centre

THE Earl of Wessex will officially open a £4 million health, library and children's complex in Pelsall next month.

Prince Edward will visit Pelsall on October 18 and be taken on a tour of the centre, which is a joint project between Walsall Council and NHS Walsall. It opened to the public earlier this year.

Walsall leisure chief, councillor Anthony Harris, said: "A Royal visit is always exciting and it is great recognition for all those who have seen this project progress from the early stages when it was just an idea into the finished building providing a great array of services for the people of Pelsall."

Stamp of approval for a young artist

A YOUNG artist from St Peter's Catholic Primary School in Bloxwich has moved a step nearer becoming one of the designers of Royal Mail's 2013 Christmas stamps.

As part of Christmas stamp design competition, the entry from Emily Wollam, aged 11, was chosen as one of the best entries from thousands in the West Midlands.

Her work is now on a shortlist of ten designs from the region.

Blood donor plea

THE NHS is appealing for volunteers to attend blood donor sessions tomorrow (Friday) at the Aldridge Hall at Anchor Meadow, Aldridge, from 1.30pm to 3.30 and 4.30 to 7.30pm.

Firm plans for market's move due in the spring

PLANS for a new home for the historic Walsall Market are expected to be put forward in April, as part of £1 million improvements.

A feasibility study into the future of the market pitch, which dates back more than 800 years, is being carried out by a team of experts with the preferred option for stalls to remain at The Bridge. The controversial Source of Ingenuity fountain could make way for a permanent market, which was moved from its position in Dibeth on what was initially only considered to be a temporary basis in 2009.

It comes after traders on Walsall Market said they believed the footfall could rise by up to 30 per cent once the multi-million pound transformation of the Old Square Shopping Centre is completed.

Primark and Co-op are earmarked to move in following the £21m transformation of the shopping centre at the top end of the town. Work is due to start in the coming months on the major retail revamp.

The borough's regeneration chief, Councillor Adrian Andrew, said: "The opening of the retail development will also coincide with the delivery of a new, permanent home for Walsall Market."

"Feasibility work has already started on this project and a planning application is proposed to be submitted in April 2014."

Independent consultants from GVA and The Retail Group carried out a detailed report on Walsall Market last year.

Sprawling

In a hard-hitting report, experts found it to be 'poor quality, confusing, sprawling and not a good advert for Walsall'.

Various sites were considered as options for an indoor market.

But the social landlord, which has offices in Caldmore Green, Caldmore, and King Street, Darlaston, and in Sandwell, has merged operations with Accord Group to secure its future.

The association went back into the black in 2011 after merging operations with Accord to cope with the Icelandic banking crisis. It launched legal action with other charities against the bank.

Kaupthing ran into trouble in 2008 after it invested in European retail groups, racking up debts of more than £3 billion.

Other charities which had invested in the bank included the Cats Protection League.

Caldmoreaccord's chief executive Mike Hew said: "With the interest accrued in the last two years we got £420,000 which has taken us to the £1.8m mark."

The landlord has always maintained it was confident of recouping the money.

Designs to bag a new market



Students Krystal Vidal, 27, and Rachael Stanford, 21, with bags they have designed

WALSALL College students with a passion for fashion could see their handmade bags on across the globe.

Rachael Stanford and Krystal Vidal have seen their designs turned into prototypes, which could be launched for sale in Japan.

It comes after they were given the opportunity to present their ideas to Dominic Goold, managing director of fashion brand Brady Bags based in Walsall.

The brief given to the students by Mr Goold was to come up with a new business bag aimed at a younger market. Students had one month to work on their designs before six were shortlisted.

The six designers then visited the Brady factory to work with the production team to

further develop their ideas. Miss Stanford's design was selected as the overall winner.

Mr Goold said: "Rachael's bag fits the brief extremely well and it's a simple yet elegant design which combines tweed, canvas and leather, which tell a story about the heritage of the brand."

Miss Stanford, 21 from Walsall, said: "I was very excited when my design was picked and seeing it come off the production line was amazing."

Mr Goold was so impressed with 27-year-old Miss Vidal's design that the company decided to also make a sample of her bag.

Both bags are now being shown to Japanese distributors and Mr Goold will visit Japan later this year to gain feedback.

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NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW

WITH
MARK
ANDREWS

CANNOCK Chase Council is going to introduce a 'nominal' 10p-an-hour parking charge for certain car parks in Cannock and Rugeley in a bid to boost its ailing town centres.

The council says the lost revenue will cost the authority around £8,000, which represents around 8p for each of the district's 97,500 residents, so if it helps bring shoppers back into town, it will represent good value indeed.

But welcome though the move is, one wonders whether it kind of misses the point. The problem with car parking charges is not simply a question of finance, it is a matter of convenience, a matter of the sort of welcome that a town extends to its visitors.

It is the whole idea of councils imposing rules and regulations on the people they are supposed to serve, and dishing out punishments to those they consider to have fallen short.

Even with the new 'nominal' charges, shoppers will still need to fumble around for a 10p piece, they will need to know in advance how long they intend to stay, and they will have to affix a silly little piece of paper to their wind-screens to avoid the watchful eye of the street patrols.

Presumably, if a 90 per cent cut in parking charges costs the council just £8,000, then it would cost just another £888.88 – less than a penny a head – to make parking charges completely free.

In fact, it would probably cost even less, as they would not need to employ anybody to empty the meters, not to mention those wonderful people dressed up like the cast of Dad's Army issuing the tickets. ☐

FORMER drug addict and mother-of-seven Cleo Embley, was jailed for 22 months after swindling the taxpayer out of £94,000 by claiming benefits she was not entitled to.

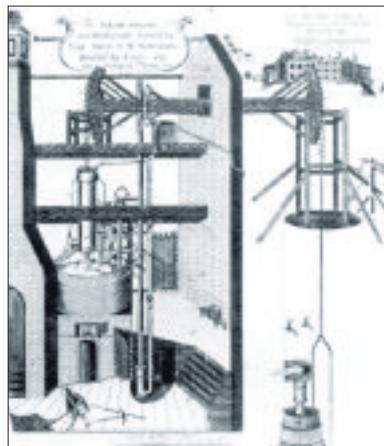
In mitigation, her barrister Mark Stuart told the court Embley 'knew she was going to have to pay the money back'.

And where was she going to find the money from for that, you might ask. Incredibly, she will continue to receive £237-a-week in Working Families Tax Credit.

So in other words, we will all spend the foreseeable future picking up the tab for repaying the money she stole from us in the first place. Isn't modern Britain just marvellous? ☐

MORE proof politicians really come from a different planet to the rest of us. Education Secretary Michael Gove says teenagers should give up 'sexting' and instead start posting each other love poems.

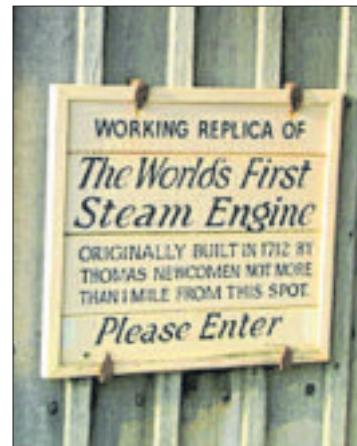
He quoted a verse that Napoleon sent to his lover Joséphine de Beauharnais as the sort of thing youngsters might like to send each other: "I hope before long to press you in my arms and shall shower on you a million burning kisses as under the equator." Or "do u want 2 snog 2nite?" as it might appear on a teenager's phone.



An engraving of the engine, with Dudley Castle distant



Father of steam power – Thomas Newcomen



A sign from the Black Country Living Museum

Engine debate fails to run out of steam

MARK ANDREWS outlines the differing views of historians in the region as to where the birthplace of the steam age is – Dudley, or Wolverhampton?

JOHN Allen and Suhail Rana are agreed on one thing. That the world's first steam engine was built by Thomas Newcomen in the West Midlands.

But there, it seems, the concord ends. Mr Allen, who has spent half a century researching the subject, is adamant that Dudley is the birthplace of the steam age. Mr Rana is convinced it is Wolverhampton.

To the outsider, it probably seems strange that something so innocuous can get people so steamed up. But a presentation by Mr Rana this summer at Wolverhampton's former Molineux Hotel has seen the temperature rise again.

Until comparatively recently, the consensus has always been that Newcomen's first successful steam engine had been installed somewhere in the shadows of Dudley Castle.

In 1952 T E Lones presented a detailed paper to the Newcomen Society concluding that the Earl of Dudley's Coneygree Park, about three-quarters of a mile west of the castle, was the most likely site. Here, the Earl had a coal works, and it was thought that the engine had been installed to drain water from the mine.

This was briefly challenged in 1948 when historian W O Henderson presented a paper to the Newcomen Society arguing that the so-called Dudley Castle engine may have been preceded by one in Wolverhampton, but the experts in London were not convinced. But now Mr Rana, president of Wolverhampton Civic Society, has reignited the debate, saying he has uncovered fresh evidence that steam power was



A working replica of the Newcomen steam engine, at the Black Country Living Museum. It is believed the world's first steam engine was built in the region

first utilised in Wolverhampton. Intriguingly, Mr Rana does not question any of the evidence put forward by John Allen in his comprehensive paper presented to the Newcomen Society in 1965, which makes a compelling argument that the first steam engine was installed at Coneygree. This includes a print by Thomas Barney, headed "The steam engine near Dudley Castle, invented by Capt Savery and Mr Newcomen, erected by ye later. 1712."

Further evidence comes from a contemporary account by Swedish engineer Marten Trieswald, who spent 10 years in Britain from 1716, who said that the

Newcomen was erected "at Dudley Castle".

Indeed Mr Rana is happy to concede that the first working steam engine was installed at the Coneygree mine in 1712 – but only after it was moved from its original site in Wolverhampton.

Mr Rana contends that prior to being acquired by the Earl of Dudley, the engine was first used by William Bach, the impoverished owner of a mine near to the end of Cross Street, off the Willenhall Road, just behind Moore Street.

"In 1711, it looks like he was having one last attempt to make the mines successful," he says. "We know he bor-

rowed £250. I believe he contacted Newcomen to build an engine."

Like Henderson in 1948, part of his argument is based on the writings of J T Desaguliers, a leading member of the Royal Society, who wrote in 1744 "they bargain'd to draw water for Mr Back of Wolverhampton, where, after a great man laborious attempts, they did make the engine work."

Assuming that Bach, who died suddenly in August 1712, and Back are one and the same, it would appear to give weight to Mr Rana's case. Except that this was rejected by the Newcomen Society in 1948.

The difficulty with that is it was written so many years after the event, and the problem with old men is that their memory fades," says Roger Cline, editor of the Newcomen Journal.

But Mr Rana, a 46-year-old computer lecturer at Dudley College, believes that the real breakthrough came with the discovery of a lost diary by a Dr Richard Wilkes, where he wrote in 1736: "Mr Sparrow had fixed a Fire Engine at the End of Wolverhampton next Willenhall, which now began to work... This Mr Newcomen most happily effected and built the first that ever drew Water, near to the Place where this now stands."

Mr Allen, a former president of the Newcomen Society from Stourton, is unconvinced. The 87-year-old says there is nothing in Mr Rana's evidence that has not already been considered – and rejected.

Coneygree Park was a vast site, straddling the old Dudley and Tipton boundaries, and although it might have only been a matter of yards from the centre of Dudley, the location of the engine itself might well have been within what is now the borough of Sandwell. Like one of Newcomen's ground-breaking steam engines, it looks like this old debate is set to run and run.

THROUGH THE YEARS

1983...

A WOLVERHAMPTON rock band famed for using pyrotechnics in their act were forced to take action after blowing a hole in a stage. Members of The Smokin' Roadie group bought a second hand fire engine to take to gigs after the accident in Chasewater.

HUNDREDS of audiophiles from all over the country descended on Sandwell for the annual British Phonofair exhibition. Old and valuable gramophones, some dating back to the start of the century, were on display at the Teacher's Centre in Oldbury.

A BICYCLE-MAD postman from Wolverhampton was planning to open a museum in his attic after collecting 22 Victorian bone-shakers in just over 18 months. John Bates, of Tettenhall, found most of his collection dumped in hedges or rusting away in gardens.

1993...

A VIKING invasion of Walsall took place to mark the start of the town's popular local history fair. But actors from the Longship Trading Company put on displays of family life and traditional crafts rather than looting and pilaging.

A LIVERY company was set to cash in on a wave of "Blobbymania" after securing a licence from the BBC to produce a range of Mr Blobby gift items. Alpha Marketing produced clocks and lunchboxes based on the character from the popular *Noel's House Party* programme.

A WALSALL man was named Grabatologist of the Year after amassing a collection of more than 5,000 ties. Tom Holmes of Pelsall was presented with the award by the Guild of British Tie Makers.

2003...

WOLVES owner Sir Jack Hayward put the club up for sale – for nothing. The owner prepared to write off his £40 million investment by handing over his 100 per cent stock holding for the promise of future team and club development by his successor.

A WOLVERHAMPTON man was reunited with a daughter he had not seen for 35 years and a granddaughter he had never met in an emotional get-together. Christopher Taylor met up with daughter Tracey Dwyer after she flew over from Australia.

A BLACK Country builder downed his chisel and sander and picked up a nail file after deciding his future was in the beauty business. Steve Woodhouse, from Dudley, worked in the building trade for three years before opening a nail salon in Wolverhampton city centre.

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LETTERS

Labour waiting to gain control of borough council 'on rebound'

I FEEL that the letter by Cllrs Oliver and Coughlan published in the Walsall Chronicle (19/9/13) necessitates a response from me.

It is untrue for them to have stated that I stood in the last election as an 'Independent'. Nowhere on any of my many pre-election leaflets or media material, or indeed on the ballot paper, did the word 'Independent' ever appear in association with my candidature. I challenge them to demonstrate otherwise.

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Walsall Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

walsallchronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

A magical night of movie music with operatic society

WHEN we went to the Walsall Central Methodist Hall on Saturday night to see the Walsall Operatic Society perform 'Magic of the Movies' we were absolutely delighted.

We could not have imagined that an amateur but dedicated group of performers could produce a show that was so outstanding it should have graced a West End stage.

The choice of music was varied, interesting and sometimes surprising, especially performances from the talented children who tickled us with the 'disappearing family' scene from The Sound of Music and the older boys declaring that 'They ain't got dames' from South Pacific.

Talented

All the soloists, too numerous and talented to be mentioned here, were outstanding and the backing group – we must not forget the backing group – performed just like a full blown orchestra, complementing all the singers.

We thoroughly enjoyed our evening of song and would like to thank every one concerned especially Charlotte Fletcher who produced, choreographed, conducted and sang in the show.

Finally, the evening ended with two memorable songs from 'Les Mis'. A fantastic rendering of 'I Dreamed a Dream' was followed by the whole chorus raising the roof and getting us, standing and cheering in our seats, to 'One Day More'. What a night!

MR AND MRS R J NEALE
Bosobol Road,
Walsall

The legal reason why the words 'Democratic Labour Party' or 'DLP' appeared on our pre-election material but not on the ballot paper was explained to the 55,000 or so households in the Blakenall ward in our main election address leaflet BEFORE the election took place in May 2012.

It is equally untrue that I attack the Labour Party and Trade Unions but not the Tories or Lib Dems. I am ultra critical of this Tory/Liberal Coalition Government and the sooner they are out of office, the better.

However, I am also critical of the Labour Party nationally and many of the Trade Union leaders (not members) for their failure to give a lead in fighting the cuts more robustly and their failure to put different and attractive policies forward that will encourage working people and their families that there is an alternative worth voting for!

It is also untrue, as stated by Cllrs Oliver and Coughlan that my answer to all of this is to set an 'illegal budget'... these are their words, not mine. Actually I urged the 28 Labour Councillors to at least turn up to the budget meeting in February 2014 (which some failed to do last year) and join me in voting AGAINST any Tory/Liberal budget proposals that involve further cuts to jobs and services. It would not be illegal to do this at the February 2014 meeting.

Grateful

I am grateful that they have now made it clear in their letter that Walsall Labour councillors will not vote against budget proposals that involve further cuts to jobs and services demonstrating that it therefore makes no difference which political party is running Walsall Council.

What Cllrs Oliver and Coughlan did not state in their letter of 19/9/13 is what the Labour Party's alternative and hopefully superior budget proposals would be. This is because they believe that it is in their political interests to 'sit on their hands' and thus allow the Tory/Liberal cuts budget to be passed in the hope that they can gain control of the council in May 2014 'on the rebound' and henceforth prepare for a Labour Council to take over the reins and plan their further £20m of cuts for each of the subsequent four years!

Finally, the arithmetic of the council's composition is 28 Labour, 24 Conservative, 5 Liberal, 1 Democratic Labour (me) and 2 Independents with a Mayor who might be presumed to use a casting vote, if required, for his own Labour Group.

This means that Labour is in a position to take control of the council NOW and certainly well before the budget decisions have to be made for 2014/15 if they can demonstrate that they, the Labour Group of councillors (the biggest group on the council) will not continue down the path of doing the Coalition Government's 'dirty work' by further destroying local public services and jobs.

If they can do this, they will have my full support to take control of the council whenever they want it.

COUNCILLOR PETE SMITH
Democratic Labour,
Blakenall Ward,
Walsall MBC

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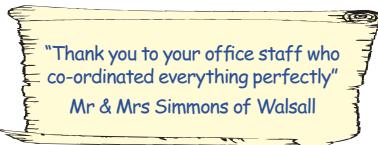


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NEWS

Injured man left on track after attack

THIS image shows two men wanted by police after a man was kicked in the head and fell onto railway tracks in a 'nasty' attack.

The 48-year-old victim from Walsall needed hospital treatment for serious injuries to his face, head and ribs after the incident last month.

Police believe the attackers were Aston Villa fans returning home after the club's home fixture earlier that day when Villa were beaten 2-1 by Newcastle.

Investigating officer Detective Constable Simon Taylor, said: "Shortly after 8.30pm on Saturday, September 14, the victim, who was on the Walsall-bound platform at Aston station, became involved in some banter with two men on the Birmingham-bound platform. It's believed that all three men were Aston Villa fans who were returning home after the club's home fixture earlier in the day.

"For reasons unknown, the banter escalated which resulted in the two men launching a violent assault on the victim, kicking him in the head and raining a number of blows to his body, causing him to fall from the platform onto the railway tracks.

"Inquiries are ongoing to trace those responsible, including viewing CCTV footage and speaking to witnesses.

Luck

"This was a particularly nasty and violent attack which caused the victim to be hospitalised."

DC Taylor added: "It's only a matter of luck that a train wasn't added into the station before he was helped from the tracks.

"Inquiries are ongoing to trace those responsible, including viewing CCTV footage and speaking to witnesses.



Police want to speak to these men after a 'nasty' attack

"I am releasing CCTV images which show two men I would like to identify and speak to as I believe they will have key information which can assist the investigation."

"If you know the men in these photographs, or their current whereabouts, please call British Transport Police."

Contact British Transport Police free on 0800 40 50 40, or text 61016. Or anonymously contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Trust turn to social media to recruit nurses

A RECRUITMENT drive on social media for up 100 nurses was being launched this week.

Staff at Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust have featured in a series of short films to encourage people to apply.

Health bosses at Walsall Manor want to recruit band five nurse as chiefs seek to reduce the multi-million pound bill for temporary workers.

The staff featuring in the recruitment drive have been involved in short films which will be appearing on www.caretojoinus.co.uk and the Manor's social media platforms.

Kathryn Halford, associate director of nursing for Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, said: "We have fantastic opportunities for 100 nurses to not only work in a great environment but to also enjoy

excellent development opportunities and a support network unlike any other."

Those featuring in the campaign range from the newly qualified Jake Dale, aged 20, to senior sister Val Ferguson who has been with Walsall Healthcare for 33 years.

Visit the www.caretojoinus.co.uk site for more information.



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NEWS

Cat crisis means hundreds of moggies needing homes



Feline foster parents Susan Tranter and husband Andrew are looking after 15 homeless cats and hand rearing kittens. A CAT crisis is swamping the RSPCA across the Black Country as the animal charity launches an SOS for help finding homes for thousands of moggies.

RSPCA branches are desperate for help because of an unprecedented number of cats now in their care.

The crisis has got so bad that some centres in the West Midlands are unable to take in any more moggies at the moment, with several having more than 100 cats waiting for new homes.

The RSPCA's own centres and

private boarding establishments used by the charity currently have around 1,700 cats – but on top of that district branches are trying to find homes for more felines.

They include three three-day-old kittens among a litter of five dumped in a box next to a recycling bank in Cradley Heath – two of which had died.

Susan Tranter who is looking after 15 cats at her home in Quarry Bank, including the three survivors, said: "The situation is desperate."

Walsall and district branch is 'full to bursting' with around 40 animals and is unable to take any more.

The Wolverhampton branch is also

under 'huge pressure'. Birmingham Animal Centre and Hospital has 78 cats and cannot take in any more until homes are found for the current occupants.

The charity says some owners can no longer afford to keep their cats or pay vet bills, while others are failing to get their cats neutered.

Peter Bolton, animal operations manager for the RSPCA Midlands and North region, said: "Our staff, whether in an RSPCA centre, branch, hospital or a field officer, all say the same – we are dealing with a cat crisis and it is getting worse."

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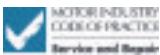


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NEWS

'Greedy' woman jailed after £75k theft from employer

A WORKER who took almost £75,000 from Carillion has been jailed for 12 months after it was revealed she spent some of the cash on a sports car.

Clair Marie Smith, 33, from Willenhall, was employed as a temporary worker at the construction firm in Wolverhampton.

Miss Joanne Barker, prosecuting, told Wolverhampton Crown Court that the mother-of-one had abused her position by setting up a false account.

Smith, of Grazewood Close, Coppice Farm, was given a role within the firm's purchasing card team and was responsible for ordering cheque books and debit cards for the staff. But over a four-month period, between March and July 2010, Smith defrauded the company of £74,402.62 using a card and cheque book.

Luxury

"One such book was set up in the false name of Helen Slade using false details given by the defendant. No-one of that name ever worked for that company," said Miss Barker, adding that 16 cheques were used and 29 card purchases made.

Transactions included purchases at department and DIY stores in the Wolverhampton area. The items included £11,775 spent on a sports car which Smith later swapped for an Audi X4 and a caravan worth more than £4,000. Both vehicles were seized after her arrest.

Mr Gurdeep Garcha, defending, said Smith had learned a 'salutary and painful lesson' and asked Judge John Warner to show her mercy, saying that she had a 10-month-old daughter and had been suffering depression.

"Over a four-month period the money was used to buy some luxury items, but not exclusively," he said. "What she did was a lapse of judgment, and aberration. I would ask you to spare her."

Judge Warner sentenced Smith to 12 months in prison. She must serve half the sentence before being released on licence.

"When you found it was relatively easy to take the money you became a bit greedy and took some more to purchase items instead of paying off some of your debts," Judge Warner told her.

Father runs for hospital



Carlo Diponio is doing the Great Birmingham Run to raise money for Birmingham Childrens Hospital where his son Leonardo is being treated

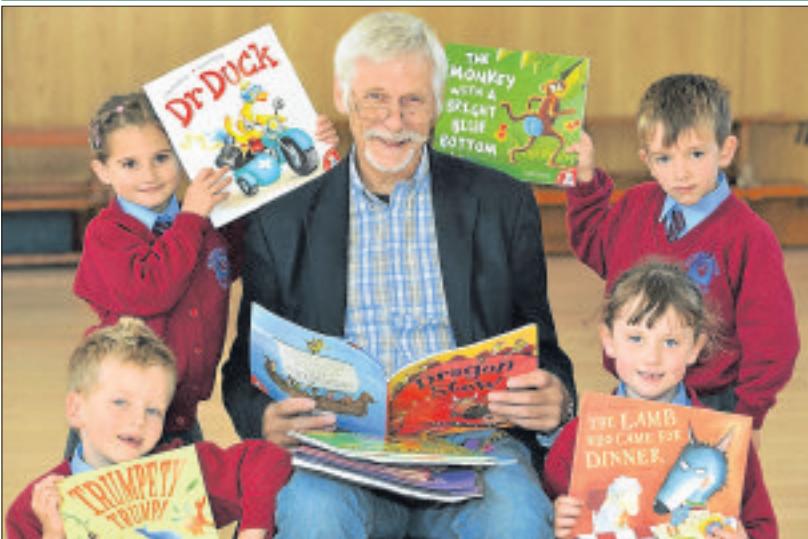
A GRATEFUL father is putting on his running shoes to raise money for the hospital that is helping his son's cancer treatment.

Carlo Diponio will run the Birmingham Half Marathon next month and has already been promised more than £1,000 in sponsorship.

The father-of-two, of Glaistead Grove, Willenhall, was inspired to take on the 13.1-mile challenge after his eight-year-old son Leonardo was diagnosed with leukaemia.

To sponsor Mr Diponio's run for Leonardo visit the justgiving.com/carolospage website.

Books tribute to teaching assistant



Donation - Ken Hubbard with pupils, back from left, Eve Taylor and Jack Sims and front, Luke Gater and Libby Taylor
BOOKS have been presented to a school in memory of a popular teaching assistant.

Diane Hubbard helped to teach pupils at Ryders Hayes Primary in Pelsall from 1987 despite suffering from multiple sclerosis.

After she died on May 2, aged 66, the school in Gilpin Crescent made donations to the Multiple Sclerosis Society and also purchased 10 story books for its library in memory of the grandmother.

Now her husband Ken, aged 67, and daughter Elizabeth Parr, 36, both of St John's Road, Pelsall, have returned to the school to present the books at a ceremony.

The books each have a label with Diane's name printed inside.

Mr Hubbard said: "Although she suffered

from MS the condition didn't stop Diane from going up to the school. Come rain or shine if the school was open, she would be there helping the children to read. It wasn't a paid job but she really enjoyed doing it.

"The books have been put in the library for future generations to enjoy and to remember the lady who gave so much of her time to the school. She has left a legacy to the village in more ways than one."

Mrs Hubbard, who used a mobility scooter, successfully campaigned for a pelican crossing to be installed in Norton Road.

She is also survived by daughter Karen, 41, of Wolverhampton, and son Andrew, 39, of Wolverhampton, and grandchildren Jake, Regan and Harry.



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NEWS

Lilly's in pink over Land Army medal



Lillian Eccleston and the Land Army medal she has been awarded with son John, his wife Jan and Carole Kemp

A GREAT Wyrley resident has been officially recognised for her service as a land girl during the Second World War.

Lillian Eccleston ploughed fields, picked potatoes and brought in the harvest during the dark days of the Second World War. It was seven decades ago but her memories of working on farms in Worcestershire are still strong.

Now, the 88-year-old has been officially recognised after staff at her nursing home learned of her story.

Celebration

Carol Kemp, activities co-ordinator at The Conifers in Johns Lane, wrote to Prime Minister David Cameron asking that Lillian receive the Women's Land Army medal, an honour introduced in 2008 for surviving veterans.

She said: "When we found out she hadn't got a medal, we decided to do something about it. There was a kind and very quick response, and within the week Lilly's medal arrived. We had a little celebration with some of her family, and she was delighted."

Lillian, nee Hawker, who used to live in Saxon Close and Broadmeadow Lane, Great Wyrley, with her husband and four sons, worked at farms in Astwood Bank, near Redditch, for almost four years. Her son John, 53, of Wrentham Drive, Cannock, said the medal was a fitting tribute.

Man jailed for frenzied attack on two women

A MAN drank two pints of vodka and then attacked a grandmother and her daughter in front of a young child, a court heard.

Jeffrey Ebanks, 47, was described as being in a 'frenzy' when he reignited blows down on Michelle Campbell and her daughter Kirsty at their home in Acacia Avenue, in Yew Tree on the border of Walsall and Sandwell.

Such was Ebanks' rage that when police arrived on the scene he had to be Tasered to subdue him before his arrest in the early hours of March 23.

Ebanks is now starting a two-year jail sentence.

The thug had been invited out by Michelle Campbell after revealing he had relationship trouble. But her offer of help turned into a vicious assault on the mother and daughter.

Wolverhampton Crown Court was told how Ebanks and Michelle Campbell had been drinking.

Mr Hapreet Sandhu, prosecuting, said: "During the course of the late afternoon and early evening the defendant and Michelle Campbell had been drinking vodka. He had drunk the equivalent of two pints."

"Kirsty Campbell (the daughter) came back and found the defendant was

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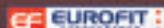
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NEWS

New gallery will dig into the area's mining history



An artist's impression shows how the new mining gallery at the Museum of Cannock Chase could look

THIS striking image shows how a new mining gallery will look if plans are given the go-ahead.

The interactive gallery at the Museum of Cannock Chase - Mining Moments - is set to give an insight into the district's history of coal mining.

It is hoped the gallery - due to encompass a 'day in the life of a miner' - will be open by next Easter, with work set to begin by Christmas.

The gallery, which will be located in the space where the current dated mining gallery now sits, will include a crawl-through tunnel as well as a whole host of interactive multi-media displays and a chance to explore features of the mines. Mining Moments is

being funded by a £97,600 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

County archaeologist for Staffordshire, Stephen Dean, described the project as 'exciting' and said he 'could not imagine a better place' for such a display.

"Cannock has such an illustrious mining heritage, so it's great to see it being commemorated in this way," said Mr Dean.

Involved

"I can't think of a better place than Cannock Chase Museum to house something like this. This is all part of the area's history and it's very important we understand how people from our past worked."

Local people will be encouraged to

get involved in the project by sharing their memories and other stories from the coal mining era and volunteers will be recruited to help with this research.

An education package will be created too, to ensure people of all ages get the maximum benefit from their experience at the museum.

Cabinet member for culture and sport at Cannock Chase Council, Christine Mitchell, said: "The Mining Memories project is very important to the people in the district, who may have worked or had relatives who have worked in the coal mines.

"The project will ensure that a vital piece of history is available for future generations to learn about the heritage of the district."

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NEWS

Stars club together for charity



Footballer turned pundit Mark Bright, left, with his charity golf team at Calderfields



The Coronation Street team featuring Andrew Whyment, second from left, who plays Kirk TV soap stars, musicians and sportsmen joined fashion designer Luke Roper at his charity golf day held in Walsall.

The star-studded event at Calderfields Golf and Country Club saw the likes of Sam Aston, who plays Chesney Brown on Coronation Street, his fellow Corrie actor Andrew Whyment and former Aston Villa footballer Dion Dublin teeing off for a good cause.

Meanwhile, the guests were entertained by rock band Reverend and The Makers.

Other famous faces at the event included This Is England actor Stephen Graham, former Norwich and West Ham footballer Dean Ashton and Stoke-born former Crystal Palace and Sheffield Wednesday striker Mark Bright.

Guests also included former Arsenal manager George Graham and ex-Leicester and Brentford boss Frank McLintock.

The sporting theme continued with Bath rugby star Matt Banahan, former Worcester Warriors player Shaun Perry and BBC football presenter Manish Bhasin.

The Calderfields Golf and Country Club tournament was held in support of the Fashion and Textile Children's Trust, which helps the children of people who work in the UK fashion and textile industry.

Invitation

Star designer Mr Roper, 36, originally from Walsall Wood, hosted the invitation-only event at the Aldridge Road course and around 140 took part. The overall individual winner was Ed Cossens from Reverend and The Makers. Awards were presented by European Tour pro golfer Mark Foster.

The matches on the day featured a £10,000 hole-in-one competition, the longest drive and nearest to the pin contests. A casino event raised £1,000 for the charity.

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NEWS

Last resident moves out



Home alone – the last house on the Moxley estate. THE last resident of an otherwise flattened housing estate is moving out, allowing a multi-million-pound regeneration scheme to go ahead in Moxley.

It is believed that the defendant resident, named locally as Kevin Allen, has moved to Wales.

The Harrowby Road estate in Moxley was mostly demolished some eight years ago, but one house remained in Lodge Road as the owner refused to move out.

It is not known how much the house was eventually sold for but the owner was previously offered £35,000 for the semi-detached property. However, the offer was refused on the grounds it would not be enough to purchase a new home.

Vacated

It is believed Mr Allen had lived on the estate with his wife, Julie, and their two children. The property has now been vacated, allowing work on 231 homes to push ahead.

The development led by Walsall Housing Group, working with Kier Partnership Homes, is now pressing ahead with preparation work taking place.

The scheme, which will create a mixture of two and three-bedroom houses and apartments, is expected to take 18 months to complete.

The site has been a long-standing eyesore and fly-tipping hotspot, and travellers set up an illegal encampment there last year.

Payout after cancer care was delayed by mistake

A WIDOWER has received a payout after his wife died of cervical cancer that was initially mistakenly diagnosed as the menopause.

Grandmother-of-three Cheryl Humpage, from Pelsall, died aged 55 after the cancer spread, despite undergoing an aggressive course of chemotherapy.

The factory worker first sought medical help complaining of nausea, unusual bleeding and fever in February 2008, but it wasn't until March 2009 that the tumours on her cervix and ovaries were discovered when she was referred to a specialist.

An investigation carried out by medical law experts claimed her GP, Martin Crowther, of St Peter's Surgery in Walsall, missed numerous opportunities to further investigate, diagnose and treat the cancer.

Insurers

The family have now received an undisclosed payout from the GP's insurers for their loss.

Husband Peter Humpage, 56, of Mill Road, said: "Cheryl was very concerned about her symptoms but thought she was in safe hands."

"She was a great mum and grandmother and very family orientated, we're all absolutely heartbroken that she's no longer with us."

"It's very hard not to be angry about what happened. Cheryl should not have had to suffer like she did and if the cancer had been diagnosed earlier we believe we could have had longer with her. We just hope that what happened to Cheryl acts as a reminder to all GPs about the importance of a quick diagnosis of cervical cancer."

Her symptoms were initially blamed on the menopause and she was prescribed HRT.

Lindsay Tomlinson from Irwin Mitchell's, which represented the family, said it took four visits and more than a year until she was seen by a specialist.

"During our investigations an independent medical expert found recognised her symptoms as being

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CLUB NEWS

Life made easier for the blind

TRYSULL & SEISDON WI

THERE was no meeting in August but several members enjoyed a Treasure Hunt around Wombourne village followed by a meal.

President Sue Cottrell introduced Peter Moodie to the September meeting. He is from the Beacon Centre for the Blind and told a little of its history. In 1875 Wolverhampton Society for the Blind was formed and in 1926 became Wolverhampton & District Institute for the Blind. In 1963 it moved to its present site near Sedgley, where the new building was built in 2009.

The Beacon Centre has 72 residential apartments with their own kitchens, where people are encouraged to live independently. A day centre offers a wide range of activities such as bowls, pottery and IT.

There is also a gym and a youth club. Outside activities include ice-skating, meals out and gardening. There is an employment suite to help people find work and the centre offers free advice and the chance to purchase aids to make everyday life a little easier.

After refreshments Clare Preece organised a quiz, won by Jo Johns and Pam Waldren. Rita Brown won the competition for a scented posy.

At the meeting on October 17, at Trysull Village Hall, the ladies will be making card boxes with Anne Bayliss. The competition is a handmade Victorian-style card.

Guest sets the stage for return to home soil

WORDSLEY 'M' TOWNSWOMEN

CHAIRMAN for the day Wendy Lloyd welcomed everyone to the September meeting.

Federation events, given by Ann Birchell, were of the Harvest Supper on October 9, Music Moments at Norton on October 31, the Carol Service on December 14 and a St George's Day event on April 24 next year.

The lunch club will meet at The Mount Pleasant, Kingswinford on October 7 and the Christmas Meal is booked at the Himley Hotel on December 2.

Wendy introduced Linda Kettle who was to be on 'home territory' again, having been born in Rowley Regis. Linda gained an O-Level in craft & theatre set design, attended Foley College at Stourbridge Art College doing 'A' Level art and then Birmingham School of Theater Design.

Moving on to London Linda gained further experience in designing dresses and wigs for stage and TV period dramas, meeting many well-known stars including Sean Connery, when designing part of the set of You Only Live Twice.

Others include Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Cliff Richard, Julie Walters, John Cleese and Bruce Forsyth.

Linda worked at Pebble Mill designing and creating



Linda gained further experience in designing dresses and wigs for stage and TV period dramas, meeting many well-known stars including Sean Connery, when designing part of the set of You Only Live Twice.

James Herriot's 'All Creatures Great and Small' was one of her favourite involvements. Linda brought along models of some of the sets she had designed also many photographs of the programmes on which her sets were used.

The next Guild meeting is on Monday October 21 with a quiz and bingo.

agreed that the evening had been a huge success and the meal was very enjoyable.

The next meeting will be held at Grange Court on October 1 when the guest speaker will be Ian Bott on 'Lost Mansions'.

All visitors will be made most welcome. For further information contact secretary Jean Williams on 01384 832439.

THE monthly meeting of Grange 'E' guild was held at Grange Court, Stourbridge on September 3.

Chairman Hazel Smith presided. After the minutes and reports were given, Marlene O'Hanlon presented the latest list of items that can be included in the shoe boxes for members to fill for charity.

The boxes may be given to Marlene at the October meeting or at the very latest in November. The completed boxes will then be delivered to a central collection point.

The evening continued with the harvest supper prepared and served by committee members. All members

agreed that the evening had been a huge success and the meal was very enjoyable.

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MEMORY LANE



Looking back – Pelsall Ladies Choir pictured in the 1980s



More trophy success – Pelsall Ladies Choir in the 1970s



Choir director June Davenhill celebrates in concert with Robert Emery, Edward Lee and Amy Hook

Ladies in fine voice to celebrate half century

IT STARTED off with seven women gathered around a piano in a living room.

Now Pelsall Ladies Choir is celebrating its 50th anniversary – and has more than six times the number of members compared to its humble beginnings.

Musical director June Davenhill helped launch the choir in 1963 and it has gone from strength to strength over the decades.

Milestone

Members organise regular charity concerts and one was held at St Michael's Church in Pelsall this month, helping to mark the milestone year.

Pianist Robert Emery, who grew up in the village and has since become the musical director for opera-singing star Russell Watson, also asked to take part in the Saturday performance at the church.

by Craig Hughes

It was held in aid of Heart Link, a charity set up at Glenfield Hospital, Leicester, which was instrumental in saving the life of the two-year-old grandson of one of the choir's members.

The singers perform a range of popular and light classical songs and around 200 people gathered for the special anniversary performance.

Mrs Davenhill, a former teacher at St Michael's Primary, said she couldn't believe the choir had been running for 50 years.

They now meet at the school hall in Maple Road on Mondays from 7pm to 9pm during the term. The ages of the members range from in their 20s to 80 years-old.

Mrs Davenhill, aged 77, said: "We started in 1963 with seven members and now we have 42.

"It started because in the same year

the Pelsall Townswomen's Guild was formed.

"Someone must have said at that time the Staffordshire Federation organised music festivals and why don't we think about entering."

"We met at my next door neighbour's house who had a piano."

They won their first competition and since then there have been many more successes.

Grateful

"It is absolutely amazing, I never would have thought 50 years ago I would still be doing this and I am just grateful I still have the energy," she said.

She said the concert had been well attended and enjoyed, with members grateful to Robert for offering to come along and perform.

Anyone interested in joining the choir can call June on 01922 449243.



Early days – Pelsall Ladies Choir in 1968 at a rehearsal singing around the piano

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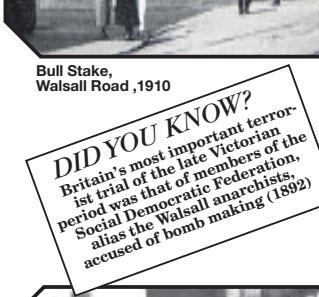


Walsall nostalgia during WW2.
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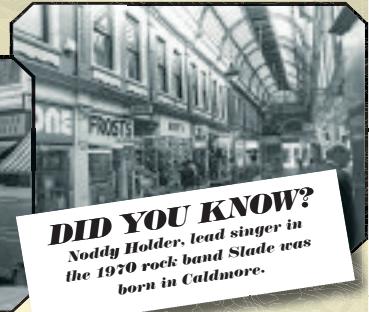
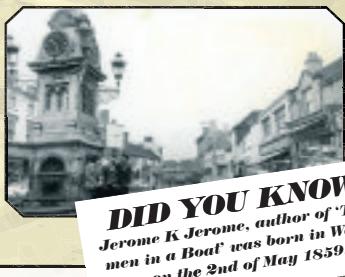
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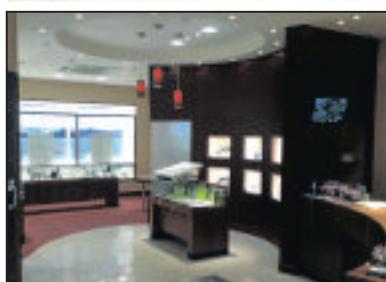
Stirlings jewellers launched their new flagship store in February this year. The independent retailer was started in Walsall when John Stirling opened his first shop in 1893 in park street before making the short move to Victorian Arcade where the shop still stands today. The business has now grown and taken over the former Buxton and Bonnett gents outfitters.

Looking back the former owner John Stirling passed away and left his daughter known as Mrs Stirling the business she carried on the business until her retirement in 1936. John Parker known as the chief then brought the business. He built upon the sound foundations and the business continued through the war years, flourishing in the post-war era when Stirlings reputation for trust and quality became renowned.

John Parker retired in 1984 and the business was brought by Chris Bissell a long standing employee who had worked in the shop since 1964. He has maintained those family traditions and values employing his wife, son and sister Jennifer. When Chris retired in 2008 he sold the business to Gordon Allen, an established manufacturing jeweller located in the Birmingham Jewellery quarter.

The Allen family have been in the jewellery trade for six generations. Gordon relocated his business to Walsall and continued Stirlings tradition by bringing with him his family. Working in the business now are his two sons Bradley and Brent and he also transferred his trusted financial controller Chantal Matthews.

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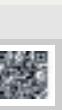
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 Telephone: 0121 706 7655
 Droitwich
 47 Old Coach Road, Droitwich Spa WR9 8BE
 Telephone: 01905 796849
 Telephone: 01922 637777

What's On! Walsall

Viva Glasvegas at The Slade Rooms
GLASWEIGIAN rockers Glasvegas, who made a big noise in 2008 with hit single Daddy's Gone, are returning to Wolverhampton on Friday, October 4, for a gig at The Slade Rooms.

Led by singer and guitarist James Allan, the band are known for his emotional songs rooted in the harsh realities of life.

Recorded in their home city, third studio album Later... When The TV Turns To Static, was released earlier this month.

It is guitar-driven and passionately performed, particularly the tracks Choices and I'd Rather Be Dead (Than Be With You). The nearest to anthems are If and album closer Finished Sympathy.

Tickets cost £15 plus fees, call 0870 320 7000 or see www.wolvescivic.co.uk website.

Meanwhile, 1980s favourites The Primitives are at The Slade Rooms tonight (Thursday) and legendary 74-year-old drummer Ginger Baker (ex-Cream, PIL) brings his Jazz Confusion to the Wulfrun tomorrow (Friday).

Caro mum-to-be postpones tour

DUTCH jazz-pop singer Caro Emerald, 32, who had a sold-out concert at the Symphony Hall last week, has announced her spring tour including Birmingham NIA date in March is postponed to October 11, after revealing she is pregnant. Purchased tickets will be valid for the new date.

Champagne comedy promises to be a Noel Coward corker

Perfect nine for South's song legacy

NINE-PIECE band The South, featuring two former singers from The Beautiful South, are keeping alive the repertoire from the 20-year career of one of the UK's favourite bands of the 1990s.

After The Beautiful South split in 2007 and main frontman Paul Heaton went solo, fellow founder Dave Hemmingway and Alison Wheeler, who had replaced Jacqui Abbott in 2003, decided to carry on with the help of several stalwarts from the touring band.

Debut

They will be performing songs from their debut album Sweet Refraints plus such Beautiful South favourites as Rotterdam, Don't Marry Her, You Keep It All In, Perfect Ten and many others at Bilston's Robin 2 venue at Mount Pleasant on Tuesday, October 1.

Call the box office on 01902 401211.



Singers Alison Wheeler and Dave Hemmingway with members of The South, continuing the music of The Beautiful South and coming to Bilston's Robin 2

A REVIVAL of Noel Coward's Champagne-popping comedy Fallen Angels, teaming-up stage and screen actresses Jenny Seagrove and Sara Crowe as best friends Julia and Jane, is staged at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre from Monday to Saturday.

Apart from doing wonders for the sales of Philadelphia cheese, Sara Crowe is probably best known as the first bride in Four Weddings And A Funeral. She has gone on to success in West End productions, specialising in Noel Coward plays.

Lover

Jenny Seagrove is a familiar face as barrister Jo Mills in Judge John Deed but is also a West End regular. She had a starring role in the recent hit revival of Coward's Volcano.

Noel Coward's 1925 farce Fallen Angels tells of a pair of bored wives who pop open the Champagne when a mutual former lover decides to call but too much liquid courage leads to unexpected results.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's stunning arena production of rock opera Jesus Christ Superstar, featuring his TV viewer-selected Jesus, Ben Forster, alongside Tim Minchin – the real star as Judas – and Melanie C as



It's liquid courage for Jenny Seagrove and Sara Crowe as Julia and Jane in Fallen Angels

Mary Magdalene plus a cameo by Chris Moyles as King Herod, returns a year on from its debut in Birmingham. The Thursday, October 3, spectacular at the NIA will be its final encore.

As The Lion King finally roars off, Birmingham Hippodrome welcomes back its home company when Birmingham Royal Ballet perform a triple bill. Tombouk, L=mc2 and Still Life At The Penguin Cafe will be staged from October 3 to 5, then Sleeping Beauty arrives.

GAME REVIEWS

Saints and the sinners

Grand Theft Auto V (18, Rockstar)

PEOPLE queued at midnight to get this game and, in a grim case of life imitating Grand Theft Auto, some were even mugged for their copy.

GTA upsets moral guardians, although they probably don't get its dark humour. The series is violent, sweaty, morally dubious. So is part five and that will please fans.

Does GTAV live up to the hype accorded a 170 million dollar blockbuster? Oh yes. Rockstar have put the money on screen, creating the massive open-world arena of Los Santos, an alternative Los Angeles. The visuals are stunning and the freedom to explore the city, though partly an illusion, is liberating.

Gamers can choose from a cast of crooks as they play a part in an action-packed crime drama that doesn't let up from the first flash-back bank heist.

Saints Row IV (18, Volition)

A CRAZY alternative to Grand Theft Auto. The graphics are not perfect but SRIV is a fun spoof of GTA and its clones.

Street gang The Saints have made it to the White House after saving the US from nuclear apocalypse – in an action-packed prologue – and then face an alien invasion. As one of the characters says: "The Saints don't do subtle".

Reviewed on X360 LB

Wedding Fayre



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What's On!

Listings supplied by Press Association

SATURDAY'S TV 28.09.13

CHOICE



Jack Donnelly

Atlantis

BBC1, 8.25pm

The Beeb's fantasy adventure replacement for Merlin focuses on a young lad called Jason (played by Misfits and House of Anubis star Jack Donnelly) who, while searching for his missing father, is washed up on the shores of a mysterious land, a place where mythical creatures, soothsaying oracles and palaces seemingly built by giants are commonplace. Although it's a place full of wonder, Jason's new home is also fraught with danger, as he discovers when he's forced to take part in a ritual so dangerous, it could result in death. Mark Addy and Sarah Parish also star.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Paul Hollywood's Bread. **12.00** Football. **12.45** Saturday Sportday. **1.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **5.15** Bargain Hunt. **6.00** Homes Under the Hammer. **7.00** Live Cycling: Road World Championships. **4.00** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **5.30** My Big Fat Grecian Wedding. **6.15** Princess Celebrities. With Colin Baker, Pam Ferris, Matthew Kelly.

7.00 Strictly Come Dancing. Bruce Forsyth and Tess Daly host the second of this weekend's live shows, as the remainder of the couples take to the floor.

8.25 Atlantis. New series.

Felicity, a young man goes in search of his father, only to be washed up on the shores of a mysterious land. Fantasy drama, starring Jack Donnelly and Mark Addy.

9.15 The National Lottery. Saturday Night Draws. Matt Johnson presents as the balls are set rolling.

9.25 Casualty. A boy, a teenager, who was caught up in a fatal car crash as he struggles to face up to the truth, while Fletch decides to shoulder the blame for Tess's mistake.

10.15 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Including highlights of Tottenham Hotspur v Chelsea and Southampton v Arsenal; National Lottery Update.

11.55 The Football League Show. Highlights of the latest games in the Football League.

1.10 Weatherview. **1.15** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.30** Film: From This Day Forward. (1946) **8.00** Film: A Damsel in Distress. (1945) **9.00** The Life of Brian. (R) **10.10** The Life of Birds. (R) **11.00** Fred Dibnah's Industrial Age. (R) **11.30** University Challenge. (R) **12.00** The A to Z of TV Cooking. **12.45** The Hairy Bakers. **1.00** Live MotoGP. **2.05** EastEnders. **4.00** Live Cycling: Road World Championships. **5.15** Flog It! (R) **6.00** The Weather Dog. (R) **7.00** Don't Arrive. (R) **7.30** Don't Arrive. (R) **7.45** Horrid Henry. (R) **7.55** Sooty. **7.55** Horrid Henry. (R) **7.45** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.00** Bottom Knocker Street. **8.30** Fish Hooks. **8.45** Fish Hooks. **9.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **9.15** V. **9.30** Saturday Cookbook. **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. **11.25** ITV News; Weather. **11.35** Surprise Surprise. (R) **12.35** All Star Family Fortunes. **1.20** Catchphrase. (R) **2.05** Doc Martin. (R) **3.05** The X Factor. **4.05** Film: Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles. (2001) **5.55** Regional Programme; Weather.

6.05 ITV News; Weather. **6.20** You've Been Framed and Famous! Harry Hill narrates a selection of the best celebrity lookalike clips sent in by viewers, featuring people resembling Tom Cruise, Britney Spears and Prince Harry.

7.20 Stepping Out. The final, featuring a performance by Diversity. Last in the series.

8.20 The X Factor. The singers who impressed at the double auditions now face a tougher challenge as they gather at Wembley Arena for the first part of boot camp.

9.50 Through the Keyhole. Larry Lamb and Emma Bunton join Davy Berry on the panel.

10.50 ITV News; Weather. **11.05** Film: 100 BC. (2008) Fantasy adventure, starring Steven Strait.

1.00 Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Babou. **6.10** Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. **6.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **7.10** Camimals. (R) **7.10** Campers. (R) **7.15** Camimals. (R) **7.25** Sooty. **7.35** Horrid Henry. (R) **7.45** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.00** Bottom Knocker Street. **8.30** Fish Hooks. **8.45** Fish Hooks. **9.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **9.15** V. **9.30** Saturday Cookbook. **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.25** ITV News; Weather. **11.35** Surprise Surprise. (R) **12.35** All Star Family Fortunes. **1.20** Catchphrase. (R) **2.05** Doc Martin. (R) **3.05** The X Factor. **4.05** Film: Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles. (2001) **5.55** Regional Programme; Weather.

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CHANNEL 4

6.15 British F3. **6.40** The Grid. **7.05** The Great North Swim. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** The American Football Show. **10.00** The Grid. **10.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **11.05** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** The Secret Millionaire USA. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Crime. **2.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.45** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.15 Come Dine with Me. Jilly Pollock hosts the fifth and final party in Liverpool. (R)

6.40 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. Comic-book drama co-created by Joss Whedon, in which a team of superheroes (Clark Gregg) assembles a group of highly skilled operatives to investigate strange new cases. (R)

8.00 Grand Designs. A Marine who was seriously injured in Afghanistan begins a project to build a specially adapted home using the latest cutting-edge design, on a budget of £250,000. (R)

9.00 Film: The Taking of Pelham 123. (2009) Criminals hijack a crowded New York subway train and threaten to kill the passengers unless they are paid \$10million. Thriller remake, with Denzel Washington and John Travolta.

11.10 Film: Hitman. (2007) Action thriller, starring Timothy Olyphant, Dougray Scott and Olga Kurylenko.

1.00 Film: The Angels. (2008) 2.35 Horrors. (R) **4.45** Hitchcock's Good Things. **5.00** Bits. **4.55** Countdown. (R) **5.40** Blancpain Endurance Series.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.15** Power Rangers: Megaforce. **10.50** Sluggers. **11.15** Inside Hollywood. **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.15** Cowboy Builders. (R) **1.15** Film: Columbo: Caution - Murder Can Be Hazardous to Your Health. (1991) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk.

3.10 Film: The Kentuckian. (1955) Western, starring Burt Lancaster, Elizabeth Taylor, Elizabeth Taylor, Steve McQueen, James Coburn and Charles Bronson.

7.45 Film: The Wonderful Country. (1959) A tough lone gunman returns from exile in Mexico to take on risky work with the Texas Rangers, patrolling the Wild West, with Robert Mitchum, Julie London and Pedro Armendariz.

9.40 5 News Weekend.

9.45 Film: Point Break. (1991) An undercover FBI agent infiltrates a Californian surfing gang to investigate a spate of armed robberies. Kathryn Bigelow's thriller, starring Kiefer Sutherland and Patrick Swayze.

12.05 SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.55** Michaela's Wild Challenge. Michaela Strachan tries to survive on a desert island. (R)

4.20 Make It Big. A visit to a radio station ends badly. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. **5.30** Suburbia. Thriller at Suburbia High School. **6.15** Sleep on the Job. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. A piglet grows tired of her brother. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. Double bill. Clark thinks she has laid an egg. **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. **6.15** Suburbia. **7.00** The Rude Tube: Total Falls Film.

2.50 Von Ryan's Express. (1965) **5.15** The Godfather. (2008) **7.00** Super-Ex-Girlfriend. (2008) **8.00** Sloping with the Enemy. (1991) Thriller, starring Julia Roberts.

10.55 Alien. (1979)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Robin Hood. **7.45** Doctor Who

8.30 Great Movie Mistakes IV: May the Fourth Be with You. **9.00** Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl. (2003) **11.50** Family Guy

BBC Four

7.00 Africa. **8.00** Lost Kingdoms of Africa. **9.00** The Young Montalbano

10.50 What's Going On? The Life and Death of Marvin Gaye

11.50 Charles Bradley: Soul of America

ITV2

3.00 Peter Andre: My Life

4.00 Kings of Leon: The Hot Desk

4.45 Film: You've Been Framed

5.45 Film: Happy Feet

6.00 Film: Evan Almighty

6.30 Film: The Tea Factor

10.50 Celebrity Juice

11.40 Film: The Magaluf Weekend

ITV3

2.05 Film: The Count of Monte Cristo

3.00 British Superbike Championship

4.10 Film: Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment

4.50 Film: Hornswoggler

5.00 Film: Schindler's List

5.44 Film: Engagement

6.00 Rules of Engagement

6.45 Film: How I Met Your Mother

7.00 Film: The Big Bang Theory

7.45 Film: How I Met Your Mother

8.00 Film: Suburbia

8.45 Film: The Rude Tube

9.00 Film: The Godfather

9.45 Film: Super-Ex-Girlfriend

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6.00 Film: Sloping with the Enemy

6.45 Film: The Funky Valley Show

7.00 Film: The

What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 29.09.13

CHOICE



Christopher Reeve

Superman

Channel 5, 6.20pm
Richard Donner's 1978 blockbuster was the first A-list superhero epic in history, and is as entertaining today as when it was released. The movie examines Kal-El's origins; how he was rocketed from his dying home world of Krypton, crash-landed on Earth, raised as a normal teenager, and then went to the city of Metropolis to fight for truth, justice and the American way. The fact it can warm the coldest heart, and leave kids perched on the edge of their seat is testament to how good this 35-year-old classic still is. Christopher Reeve stars.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast, 7.30 Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. (R) **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. (R) **11.00** Sunday Politics. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00 BBC News:** Weather. **1.15 Bargain Hunt:** (R) **2.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **3.00** Ronnie's Animal Crackers. (R) **3.30** Ronnie's Animal Crackers. (R) **4.00** Points of View. **4.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** Britain's Big Wildlife Revival. **6.35** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **7.00** **Countryfile:** Matt Baker and Ellie Harrison visit the Shropshire town of Ludlow during its annual food and drink festival, and Tom Heap looks at the threat posed by non-native plants and animals. **8.00** **Antiques Roadshow:** Items at the Royal Agricultural University near Cirencester include a tea caddy used for a budgie's ashes and possibly the last signatures made by Edward VIII before his abdication. **9.00** **By Any Means:** A girl's body is found in the boot of a car belonging to a well-respected judge, and Helen is convinced the accused has been framed by an ex-politician with a personal vendetta. **10.00 BBC News:** Regional News; Weather. **10.25 Match of the Day 2:** Highlights of the latest Premier League matches. **11.25 Film:** *New Town Killers*. (2008) Thriller, starring Dougray Scott. **1.00 Weatherview.** **1.05 BBC News.**

BBC2

6.00 Film: *Borderline*. (1950) **7.30** Around the World in 80 Gardens. (R) **8.30** Gardeners' World. (R) **9.00** **The Barcharone Game:** **9.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.00** James Martin's Food Map of Britain. (R) **11.30** James Martin's Food Map of Britain. (R) **12.00** James Martin's Food Map of Britain. (R) **12.30** GPs. **2.15** Live Cycling: Road World Championships. **4.15** *Flog It!* (R) **5.00** Rugby League: Super League Play-Offs. **6.00** **Great British Railway Journeys:** The role Weymouth played in the D-Day landings. **6.30** **The Great British Bake Off:** The remaining contestants face three tasks involving sweet dough. (R) **7.30** **The Ginge, the Geordie and the Geek:** New series. Comedy sketch show, starring Graeme Rooney, Paul Charlton and Kevin O'Loughlin. **8.00** **The Crime Gang:** High winds and bad driving cancelled across the country. **9.00** **The Story of the Jews:** The Holocaust and the creation of the state of Israel. Last in the series. **10.00 The Wrong Mans:** Comedy thriller, starring James Corden and Mathew Baynton. (R) **10.30 QI XL:** Extended edition, with Sue Perkins, Ross Noble and David Mitchell. **11.15 Never Mind the Buzzcocks.** (R) **11.45 Film:** *Sus.* (2010) Drama, starring Clint Dyer and Ralph Brown. **1.15 Sign Zone:** *Countryfile.* (R) **2.10** *Holby City.* (R) **3.10** *This Is BBC Two.*

ITV

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Babou. **6.10** Matt Hatter Olympics. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan. **7.00** **Canimals:** (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Canimals. (R) **7.25** Sooty. **7.35** Horrid Henry. (R) **7.45** Horrid Henry. (R) **8.00** Bottom Knocker Street. **8.15** Bottom Knocker Street. **8.30** Fish Hooks. **8.45** Fish Hooks. **9.00** **The Big Bang Theory:** **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Ade in Britain. (R) **10.25** **Film:** *Columbo: Dagger of the Mind.* (1972) **12.25** ITV News; Weather. **12.35** **Murder, She Wrote.** (R) **1.35** **The X Factor:** **3.05** **You've Been Framed!** (R) **3.35** **Big Star's Little Star.** (R) **4.35** **Downton Abbey.** (R) **5.00** **Regional Programme:** Weather. **6.15** **ITV News:** Weather. **6.30** **Surprise Surprise:** A father and daughter are reunited. **7.30** **The X Factor:** The remaining acts have a final chance to impress Gary Barlow, Nicole Scherzinger, Sharon Osbourne and Louis Walsh before the line-up of the judges' houses round is revealed. **9.00** **Downton Abbey:** Mary takes an interest in the running of the estate, but meets firm resistance from her father. Lady Rose MacClare finds herself in a predicament at a tea dance in York. **10.05** **ITV News:** Weather. **10.20** **Film:** *Larry Crowne.* (2011) Premiere. Comedy drama, starring Tom Hanks and Julia Roberts. **12.10** **Premiership Rugby Union:** **1.00** **The Store:** **3.00** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **3.55** **Motorsport UK:** **4.40** **ITV Nightscreen:** **5.05** **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R) **5.15** **Deal or No Deal.** (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.35 **The American Football Show:** (R) **7.30** **American Football:** Hard Hitter. **8.30** **Erinnyes:** Hard Knocks. **8.45** **Dino Dan:** (R) **9.00** **Foodie Games:** (R) **9.30** **Sunday Brunch:** **12.20** **The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **12.50** **The Simpsons:** (R) **1.20** **The Simpsons:** (R) **1.50** **Film:** *The Net.* (1995) **4.00** **Location, Location, Location:** (R) **5.05** **Location, Location, Location:** (R) **5.25** **The Political Slot:** **5.30** **America's Little Football Live:** *Minnesota Vikings v Pittsburgh Steelers* (Kick-off 6.00pm). **8.00** **Kevin McCloud's Man Made Home:** Having moved his cabin to the beach, Kevin doubles the floor space with a new mezzanine, puts up a hammock and dives in London's oldest dock in search of junk to recycle. **9.00** **Big Fat Quiz of the 90s:** Jonathan Ross, Jo Brand, Sue Perkins, Lee Mack, Bob Mortimer and Richard Ayoade demonstrate how much they remember about the 1990s. Jimmy Carr asks the questions. **10.35** **Gogglebox:** Some of Britain's most opinionated viewers comment on shows from the past seven days, including *The X Factor* and *The Great British Bake Off.* Narrated by Caroline Aherne. (R) **11.20** **Alan Carr: Chatty Man:** Alan celebrates the show's 100th episode, with chat and music by Justin Timberlake and Rihanna, and boxer David Haye's thoughts about his upcoming bout with Tyson Fury. (R) **12.35** **Paddy's TV Guide:** (R) **1.15** **American Football Live:** **4.45** **British F3:** (R) **5.10** **Brief Encounters of the Sporting Mind:** *Golf.* (R) **5.15** **Deal or No Deal.** (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: *Peppa Pig.* **6.05** **Roary the Racing Car:** (R) **6.15** **Fifties:** **6.25** **Bubble Guppies:** (R) **6.35** **The Moon Show:** (R) **6.50** **Clue's Closet:** (R) **7.00** **Roobarb and Custard Too:** (R) **7.10** **Bananas in Pyjamas:** (R) **7.20** **Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures:** (R) **7.25** **Make Way for Noddy:** (R) **8.40** **City of Gold:** (R) **8.45** **Little Prince:** (R) **8.20** **Mr Magoo:** (R) **8.25** **Angelina Ballerina:** (R) **8.45** **Rupert Bear:** (R) **9.00** **Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom:** (R) **9.15** **Toby's Travelling Circus:** (R) **9.25** **Roary the Racing Car:** (R) **9.40** **Jimmy Carr:** (R) **10.00** **Mr Men Show:** (R) **10.15** **Power Rangers:** **10.20** **Sluggo:** (R) **11.15** **Inside Hollywood:** **11.20** **Police Interceptors:** (R) **12.20** **James Bond:** *The True Story.* (R) **12.20** **Film:** *Close Encounters of the Third Kind: The Director's Cut.* (1977) **6.20** **Film:** *Superman.* (1978) Comic-strip adventure, with Christopher Reeve and Margot Kidder. **8.55** **5 News Weekends:** **9.00** **Film:** *Go in 60 Seconds.* (2000) A veteran car thief is forced to pull off an extremely complex heist to save his son from the gangster holding him hostage. Thriller, starring Nicolas Cage and Angelina Jolie. **11.25** **Film:** *Timecop.* (1994) Sci-fi adventure, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme. **1.15** **SuperCasino:** **3.55** **Michaela's Wild Challenge:** **4.20** **Make It Big:** **5.50** **Roar:** **6.15** **Mr Men Show:** (R) **7.00** **Mr Men Show:** (R) **7.50** **Angels of Jarm:** (R) **8.10** **Hana's Helpline:** (R) **8.20** **Angels of Jarm:** (R) **8.25** **The Funky Valley Show:** (R) **8.40** **Roary the Racing Car:** (R) **8.50** **Hana's Helpline:** (R) **9.45** **How I Met Your Mother:** **6.15** **Rules of Engagement:** **6.45** **The Big Bang Theory:** **8.10** **Film:** *The Spy Next Door.* (2010) **10.00** **New Rude Tube:** **11.00** **The Big Bang Theory:** **11.45** **Film:** *Memphis Belle* (1990) **E4** **4.50** **How I Met Your Mother:** **6.15** **Rules of Engagement:** **6.45** **The Big Bang Theory:** **8.10** **Film:** *The Spy Next Door.* (2010) **10.00** **New Rude Tube:** **11.00** **The Big Bang Theory:** **11.45** **Film:** *The Straight Story* (1999) **5.10** **Ice Age:** (2002) **6.55** **Employee of the Month:** (2006) **9.00** **Transporter 3:** (2008) **11.05** **Black Book:** (2006) **ITV3** **3.45** **Film:** *The Railway Children* (1970) **6.00** **Murder, She Wrote:** (1979) **7.00** **Lewis:** (2009) **9.00** **Film:** *The Life of David Gale* (2003) **11.35** **Bomb Girls:** **ITV4** **11.15** **Live British Touring Car Championship:** The ninth round of the season from Silverstone. **6.00** **Goodwood Revival 2013:** **7.00** **Minder:** (2000) **8.00** **Premiership Rugby Union:** **9.00** **Film:** *Firefox* (1982) **11.45** **Film:** *Memphis Belle* (1990) **4** **4.50** **How I Met Your Mother:** **6.15** **Rules of Engagement:** **6.45** **The Big Bang Theory:** **8.10** **Film:** *The Spy Next Door.* (2010) **10.00** **New Rude Tube:** **11.00** **The Big Bang Theory:** **11.45** **Film:** *The Straight Story* (1999) **5.10** **Ice Age:** (2002) **6.55** **Employee of the Month:** (2006) **9.00** **Transporter 3:** (2008) **11.05** **Black Book:** (2006) **DIGITAL** **BBC Three** **7.00** **Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes** **7.10** **Great Movie Mistakes IV: May I Have Your Beads? You're All Mine:** **7.20** **Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest:** **7.30** **Family Guy:** **10.45** **Staying in with Greg & Russell:** **11.15** **American Dad!** **BBC Four** **7.00** **Miss Marple:** **7.50** **The Rabbits of Skomer:** **8.00** **Fabric of Britain:** **9.00** **Secret Voices of Hollywood:** **10.30** **Sound of Cinema: The Music That Made the Movies:** **11.35** **Proms on Four:** **John Wilson's Hollywood Rhapsody** **ITV2** **2.10** **Film:** *The Lost World: Jurassic Park* (1997) **4.40** **The X Factor:** **6.15** **The Xtra Factor:** **7.10** **Film:** *Mr Bean's Holiday* (2007) **9.00** **The Xtra Factor:** **10.00** **Film:** *Fast & Furious* (2009) **ITV3** **3.45** **Film:** *The Railway Children* (1970) **6.00** **Murder, She Wrote:** (1979) **7.00** **Lewis:** (2009) **9.00** **Film:** *The Life of David Gale* (2003) **11.35** **Bomb Girls:** **ITV4** **11.15** **Live British Touring Car Championship:** The ninth round of the season from 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Film Choices

MONDAY

Hostel, Channel 5, 11pm

Three backpackers travelling across Europe hear of a Slovakian inn where their every hedonistic desire will be met. However, they discover they have been lured into the clutches of wealthy depraved businessmen who pay for the chance to torture people to death. Horror, starring Jay Hernandez and Eythor Gudjonsson. (2005)

TUESDAY

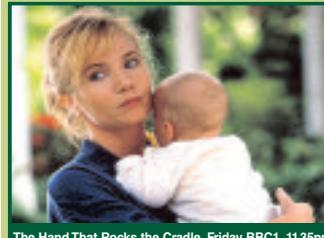
Siege of the Saxons, Channel 4, 1.30pm

King Arthur is betrayed and killed by one of his knights, who has formed an alliance with an invading Saxon horde and intends to seize the throne himself. However, the dead monarch's daughter is rescued by an outlaw, who seeks the aid of Merlin in ensuring the crown passes to her instead of the villainous usurper. Medieval adventure, starring Ronald Lewis. (1963)

WEDNESDAY

Judgment Night, BBC1, 11.45pm

Four suburbanites are stranded in Chicago's tough West Side while on their way to a boxing match. They experience a chilling night of terror when they see a gangland murder and must flee for their lives from the killer, who is determined to leave no witnesses. Thriller, starring Emilio Estevez, Stephen Dorff, Cuba Gooding Jr, Jeremy Piven and Denis Leary. (1993)



The Hand That Rocks the Cradle, Friday BBC1, 11.35pm

THURSDAY

Magicians, ITV, 10.35pm

A conjuring double act comes to an end after an unfortunate accident with a guillotine. Set on separate careers, the pair become bitter rivals bent on sabotaging each other's performance at any opportunity - until the prospect of winning a prestigious international contest offers the incentive to bury the hatchet and join forces once again. Comedy, with David Mitchell. (2007)

FRIDAY

Mickey Blue Eyes, ITV, 10.35pm

A straight-laced Englishman falls for a New York mobster's daughter, who wants to escape her family's criminal connections. However, try as he may, he realises there is virtually no way to avoid being drawn into its members' illegal activities. Romantic comedy, starring Hugh Grant, Jeanne Tripplehorn and Burt Young. (1999)

The Hand That Rocks the Cradle, BBC1, 11.35pm
A doctor is caught molesting a patient and commits suicide, after which his wife has a miscarriage. She blames his victim for her losses and plans to get revenge, infiltrating the unsuspecting woman's house as a nanny and playing twisted mind games to destroy her life. Thriller, starring Rebecca De Mornay. (1992)

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We make it 

Pick of the Week

Legend of the lost city is brought back to life

There are some genres that just fit into Saturday evening's TV schedules perfectly, and being without them seems weird.

Talent shows are a given these days, as glossy light entertainment programmes. And you certainly can't miss out on a fantasy adventure.

Doctor Who is the grandfather of them all, but will be off our screens until the 50th anniversary edition, set to broadcast on November 23rd.

In recent years, the likes of Robin Hood and Merlin have fulfilled the requirement whenever the Time Lord has been off air, but now there's a new show on the block.

It feels as if the Beeb has been showing the trailer for Atlantis every five minutes lately; they've obviously pushed the boat out when it comes to the budget and so are desperate for it to gain a decent audience.

However, what the corporation hasn't done is tell us much about the plot.

What we do know is that it focuses on a young lad called Jason who,

is washed up on the shores of a mysterious land, a place where mythical creatures, soothsaying oracles and palaces seemingly built by giants are commonplace.

Although a place full of wonder, Jason's new home is also fraught with danger, as he discovers when he's forced to take part in a ritual so dangerous, it could result in death. Heading the cast is Jack Donnelly, and the series is set to make him a star; he will probably already look familiar to fans of Misfits and House of Anubis thanks to his recurring roles on them.

But here he plays Jason, whose life is about to undergo a dramatic change. He's always been an outsider, but finally finds friendship in Atlantis with Pythagoras and Hercules.

But the show's other big name of the Greek mathematician will send shivers down the spine of those who tried to deal with his theories about triangles during school lessons, here he's a youngster with a big heart who's about to have a lot of adventures.

He's played by Robert Emms,

who most recently popped up in

Kick-Ass 2.

Also involved in the three-way bromance is Hercules – but he isn't quite as you've seen him before.

Back in the 1990s, Kevin Sorbo played the legendary hero as a muscle-bound hunk. Here he's played by The Rock. Mandy stars Mark Addy, and it's clear that the character is no longer in the peak of his prime.

"I am very excited to be invited along on this epic adventure," says the York-born star. "The scripts bring to life ancient myths with such a vibrancy and sense of humour; I knew I wanted to be a part of it."

Also set to feature are Sarah Parish and Juliet Stevenson; the BBC's controller of drama commissioning, Ben Stephenson, is certainly impressed by the calibre of those involved.

He says: "The fantastic cast announced for Atlantis is testament to the ambition and scope of Howard's original scripts. Some of the UK's best-loved actors are joining our newest talent to take the BBC1 audience to a rich and wonderful world where any adventure is possible."



Jack Donnelly stars in Atlantis, Saturday, BBC1, 8.25pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY

Gadget Man
Channel 4, 8.30pm

For us technophobes, Richard Ayoade is nothing short of a godsend. Trying not to think about the fact that this comedy genius will shortly no longer be on our screens in The IT Crowd (sob, sniff), the way he talks us through the idiots' guide to the newest of technology and gadgets is something of a lifesaver. This week, Richard's looking at DIY, something of which he's definitely not a fan. He's testing out the latest safety tools, building machinery and lawnmowers, all of which promise to take the strain and pain out of home decorating. Richard also sets himself a personal challenge; to make over a room in his house using robots and gadgets, thus not having to lift a finger himself.

Broadmoor: The Inside Story
Channel 5, 9pm

Thinking about the type of people it has caged is enough to make you shudder, but Broadmoor is approaching a significant anniversary, having been home to Britain's most notorious killers for 150 years. This two-part documentary explores the history of the world's most famous and feared hospital; from the Victorian era to the present day. This first instalment takes a look at Broadmoor as it is today. Surrounded by barbed wire and high-level security, the facility is home to some of country's most deranged and dangerous minds. In 1863, Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum opened, as the law declared it immoral to blame the insane for crimes and send them to the gallows...

TUESDAY

The Stephen Lawrence Unity Concert
BBC1, 10.35pm

This year marked the 20th anniversary of the murder of teenager Stephen Lawrence, but the repercussions of the shocking crime are still being felt. On Sunday, September 29, his life and legacy are being celebrated with a special concert at the O2 Arena – and some of the biggest names in British music are taking part. It's an impressively eclectic line-up, featuring Ellie Goulding, Rita Ora, Beverley Knight, Emeli Sande, Rizzle Kicks, Labrinth, Plan B, Jessie J, Tinie Tempah, Rudimental, Soul II Soul and Ed Sheeran. There's even a bit of jazz for the grown-ups, courtesy of Jamie Cullum. If you couldn't make it to the concert, the BBC are bringing us some of the highlights.

WEDNESDAY
Grand Designs
Channel 4, 9pm

Flying instructor Colin Mackinnon and his partner, hovercraft instructor and trapeze artist Marta Briongos, love their airfield so much, they have decided to live there too. Their plan is to build an extraordinary metal sculptural home next to the runway, designed by one of Scotland's most acclaimed architects. It's inspired by aircraft hangars, but bespoke metal homes are far from the norm in Scotland, and finding people to do the work is anything but easy. The violent rain,



The Stephen Lawrence Unity Concert, Tuesday, BBC1, 10.35

snow, 100-mile-an-hour winds and the worst storms for a century don't help matters, so little wonder the year-long project starts dragging – into its third year. Colin and Marta do everything possible to see their unique project through to the end. But will Kevin like the result?

Science Britannica
BBC2, 9pm

It's the last in the present series of Science Britannica, but we shouldn't get too downhearted – no doubt a new Professor Brian Cox show will be along in a week or two. The reason he's become so ubiquitous is because he's very good at explaining difficult ideas in a way that makes it easy for non-experts to comprehend, without making us feel like we're being talked down to. However, this week he's tackling an issue that most of us should understand – happy accidents. It seems that some of Britain's most impressive breakthroughs were made when the scientists were actually trying to discover something else.

THURSDAY
Mayhem & Mishaps: Britain Caught on Camera
BBC1, 9pm

Forget all those complaints about Health and Safety

getting out of control – this documentary could just convince you that you need to get an expert in to risk assess your house. Mark 'Chappers' Chapman takes a break from Match of the Day 2 to look at some of the calamities that could befall us as we go about our everyday lives. Admittedly, some of them look quite funny when they are happening to someone else, as we're treated to a whole host of CCTV and home video clips of people falling over. But others are no clearly laughing matter, as Chapman examines the consequences of DIY accidents, barbecue fires and exploding white goods.

FRIDAY
Marvel's Agents of SHIELD
Channel 4, 8pm

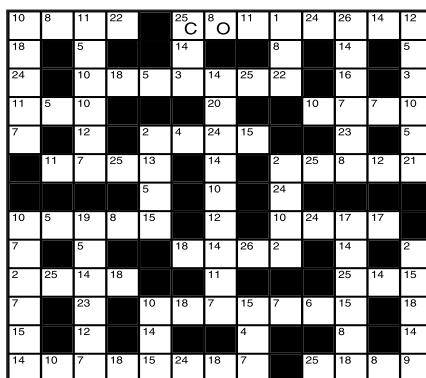
It's been a long time since Marvel created a hit, live action TV show. However, when Avengers Assemble struck box office gold last year, the time was finally right to exploit one of Marvel's most enduring organisations, S.H.I.E.L.D. (Strategic Homeland Intervention Enforcement and Logistics Division). If you missed last week's pilot, Agent Coulson (Clark Gregg) is back from the dead. He forms a specialised team of individuals to brave the post-Battle of New York world. They include combat and espionage specialist Grant Ward (Brett Ward), expert pilot and martial artist Melinda May (Ming-Na Wen), and free-spirited computer hacker Skye (Chloe Bennet). This week, Coulson and the agents travel to Peru to investigate an object of unknown origin, codenamed 0-8-4.

Puzzler**Brain Gym**

No.240

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009	1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1015	1016	1017	1018	1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1024	1025	1026	1027	1028	1029	1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035	1036	1037	1038	1039	1040	1041	1042	1043	1044	1045	1046	1047	1048	1049	1050	1051	1052	1053	1054	1055	1056	1057	1058	1059	1060	1061	1062	1063	1064	1065	1066	1067	1068	1069	1070	1071	1072	1073	1074	1075	1076	1077	1078	1079	1080	1081	1082	1083	1084	1085	1086	1087	1088	1089	1090	1091	1092	1093	1094	1095	1096	1097	1098	1099	1090	1091	1092	1093	1094	1095	1096	1097	1098	1099	1100	1101	1102	1103	1104	1105	1106	1107	11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Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO
HOME BUYING AND LETTING

Detached is presented to showhome standard



Estate agent Dixons is handling the sale of this three-bedroomed detached in Bloxwich Road North

OFFERS over £200,000 are being invited for this 'showhome style' three bedroom detached house in Bloxwich Road North, Walsall.

On the ground floor is a lounge, 15ft 2in by 12ft, with a feature fireplace with log burning stove and a dining room measuring 11ft 11in by 10ft 5in with patio door to a conservatory which is 15ft 9in by 9ft 6in with French doors to the rear garden.

Utility

The kitchen, 15ft 1in by 7ft 10in, has wall and base units, roll edge work surfaces, Belfast sink with mixer tap, space for range cooker and American style fridge freezer and plumbing for dish-washer.

There is also a utility room with base units, roll edge work surfaces, plumbing for washing machine, space for dryer and door to garage.

On the first floor are three bedrooms and a bathroom with panelled bath with shower over, WC and wash hand basin.

Outside to the front is a pebbled forecourt to the garage and to the rear a lawn, patio area and decking area.

Contact Dixons on 01902 634497 for further details or to view.



An immaculate conservatory has French doors leading to the garden



Contemporary kitchen with wall and base units plus space for range cooker



Tel: 01922 404446



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NEW

Sneyd Lane
Essington

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- Majority double glazed
- 2 reception rooms, kitchen
- 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Driveway and gardens
- MUST TO VIEW

£155,000

VIEWING
ESSENTIAL



Lowbridge Close
Willenhall

- Beautifully Presented, Spacious Semi Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Entrance Hallway, Spacious Lounge, Recessed Porch
- Refitted Kitchen
- 2 Excellent Bedrooms
- Bathroom, Rear Garden
- Block paved Driveway
- Energy Rating - D

£104,950

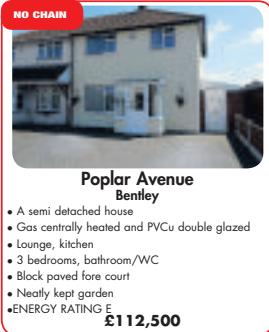
NO CHAIN



Kinitis Crescent
West Bromwich

- An extended & much improved traditionally styled semi detached house
- No onward chain, Gas centrally heated, PVCu double glazed, Recessed Porch
- Entrance Hall/Stairs, Through Lounge/Dining Room, Extended Breakfast Room/Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom/WC, Parking and Gardens

£134,950



Poplar Avenue
Bentley

- A semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated and PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, kitchen
- 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Block paved fore court
- Neatly kept garden
- ENERGY RATING E

£112,500



Elms Lane
Shareshill

- Unique detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining room, kitchen
- 4 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Garage, driveway
- Beautifully presented

£315,000



Ravenscroft Road
Willenhall

- Beautifully refurbished self contained First Floor Flat
- Gas centrally heated, PVCu double glazed
- Refitted Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge, Utility
- Balcony, 2 Bedrooms, Fully Tiled Refitted Shower Room/WC, Outside Stores
- Communal gardens, Parking

£74,950



Moorhen Close
Brownhills

- Attractive Modern End Town House
- Three Bedrooms
- Front Lounge / Rear Dining Room
- Double Glazed Conservatory
- Guests Cloaks / WC
- Neatly Laid Rear Garden
- EPC Rating C

OIRO £139,950



Walsall Road
Norton Canes

- Spacious Dorner Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms (Two Ground Floor)
- Attractive Lounge / Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom / WC
- Detached Garage
- EPC Rating E

OIRO £129,950

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...time to talk to



01922 315799



Property

Detached house has Mid-terrace home mature rear garden with two bedrooms



£220,00 price tag for this three bedroom house

THIS three bedroom detached house in Hilton Lane, Great Wyrley, is on the market for £220,000 through Dixons Estate Agents. It has double glazing and gas central heating both where specified.

There is an entrance porch, entrance hall, extended lounge, dining room, kitchen, shower room and garage. On the first floor, three bedroom and family bathroom.

There is ample off road parking and a garage. A well matured enclosed rear garden has a patio area and landscaped garden.

The lounge has double glazed bay window to the front, radiator, coving to the ceiling and marble effect hearth housing a living flame gas fire. Living/dining room has sliding patio double glazed doors to the rear.

Kitchen has a range of wall-mounted cupboards and base units, wine rack, work surfaces incorporating a Belfast sink, integrated electric oven and gas hob, integrated fridge, and integrated washing machine.



Dixons Estate Agent is selling this modern house

A MODERN two bed mid terrace property in Oakridge Drive, Cheslyn Hay is being sold through Dixons Estate Agents for £120,000.

An entrance hall lead to lounge and kitchen. Upstairs are two double bedrooms and a refitted bathroom.

The house has double glazing, off-road parking for two car and a rear garden. It has gated access to side, giving access to front via alleyway.

The kitchen is 9ft 5in by 7ft 10in and has range of wall and base units, roll top work surfaces over and space for appliances. The lounge is 16ft by 11ft 6in with French windows to rear and stairs to first floor.

Upstairs the landing has access to the loft. The smaller bedroom has range of fitted wardrobes with sliding mirrored doors.

Bathroom has a white suite comprising panelled bath with shower over, wash hand basin, low level WC and a shower area.

Estate agents offers 'unbeatable commission'

LEADING Wolverhampton estate agents DB Roberts has launched what it says is an unbeatable commission offer to attract more homes onto their books to meet increased demand.

Announcing the new 0.75 per cent no-sale, no-charge commission package, sales director Jo Culley said the company believed the property market has turned.

"We have just had our best July and August since 2008, with August sales levels higher than April," she said. "All nine of our branches need to list additional houses to meet continuing demand, as September shows every sign of being another busy month."

tional houses to meet continuing demand, as September shows every sign of being another busy month.

"We therefore put together a sales and marketing package which includes all the great features offered by DB Roberts at an unbeatable 0.75 per cent commission charge."

The offer, which is limited to the first 100 instructions, includes professional photography plus an interactive 3D floor plan, and listing on Rightmove and Zoopla until the property is sold.

She added: "We are available from

8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and extended hours at weekends and, of course, we advertise weekly in the local press while our own website www.dbroberts.co.uk has recently been completely redesigned.

"We believe no other agent can match this deal on a like for like basis, so we are expecting a huge amount of interest from sellers."

Wolverhampton manager Dawn Dickinson urged sellers not to delay. "This could be the best commission offer we have ever made," she said.

AUCTION



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AUCTION
Tuesday, 8th October 2013
7pm prompt at
The Premier Suite, Bar Sport,
1st Floor The Danilo, High Green, Cannock

Auction Viewing Times

Address	Sat. Sept. 28th & Oct. 5th	Wed. Sept. 25th & Oct. 2nd
4, 5 & 6 Love Lane, Rugeley	10:00am	10:00am
60 Cannock Wood Street, Hazel Slade	10:45am	10:45am
221 Littleworth Road, Hedgesford	11:15pm	11:15pm
41 Copperkins Road, Hedgesford	11:45pm	11:45pm
14 Deal Avenue, Burntwood	12:15pm	12:15pm
109 Walsall Road, Norton Canes	12:45pm	12:45pm
The Ridings, Middle Hill, Shareshill	1:15pm	1:15pm
36 Tewkesbury Road, Mossley Est., Bloxwich	1:45pm	1:45pm
42 Napier Road, Leamore, Bloxwich	2:15pm	2:15pm
64 Bloxwich Road, Walsall	2:45pm	2:45pm
40 Handley St., Wednesbury	3:30pm	3:30pm
Land adj. 49 Bentons Lane, Great Wyrley	By calling on site with a catalogue to hand	

01543 505454
19 Wolverhampton Road, Cannock, Staffordshire. WS11 1DG
www.bootandson.co.uk



GUIDE PRICE £120,000-£140,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Semi detached house
- ◆ Standing on a good sized plot ideal for owner occupation, conversion or redevelopment (subject to planning permission)
- ◆ EPC rating 31



GUIDE PRICE £120,000-£140,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Inner terraced house
- ◆ Requiring some repair and improvement
- ◆ Gas central heating (not tested)
- ◆ Part double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating 44



GUIDE PRICE £120,000-£140,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Inner terraced house
- ◆ Requiring some repair and improvement
- ◆ Gas central heating (not tested)
- ◆ Part double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating 46



GUIDE PRICE £120,000-£140,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ End terraced house
- ◆ Requiring repair and refurbishment
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Some double glazing
- ◆ EPC rating 43



GUIDE PRICE £55,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ End terraced house
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ In need of comprehensive renovation
- ◆ EPC rating 16



GUIDE PRICE £60,000-£65,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Mid terraced house
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ In need of comprehensive renovation
- ◆ EPC rating 12



GUIDE PRICE £30,000-£40,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Inner semi detached house with renovation works commenced but requiring completion
- ◆ EPC rating 8



GUIDE PRICE £85,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Traditional semi detached house
- ◆ Located in popular residential area
- ◆ Requiring complete renovation
- ◆ EPC rating 25



GUIDE PRICE £60,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ End terraced house
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Ideal buy to let
- ◆ EPC rating 60



GUIDE PRICE £50,000-£55,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Semi detached house
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ In need of comprehensive renovation
- ◆ EPC rating 12



GUIDE PRICE £60,000

LEASEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ First Floor Flat
- ◆ One Bedroom
- ◆ Economy 7 electric heating
- ◆ Ideal buy to let
- ◆ EPC rating 69



GUIDE PRICE £70,000-£75,000

LEASEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

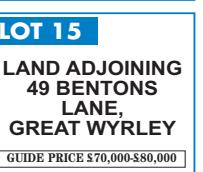
- ◆ Ground floor flat
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Part double glazed
- ◆ Garage in court
- ◆ Ideal buy to let
- ◆ EPC rating 69



GUIDE PRICE £100,000-£110,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Link detached house
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ Corner plot gardens
- ◆ In need of comprehensive refurbishment
- ◆ EPC rating 69



GUIDE PRICE £70,000-£80,000

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Individual residential building plot with benefit of full planning permission for erection of single residential dwelling

Property



The lounge features French doors to the rear garden and a dining area



The spacious garden backs onto open fields, providing far-reaching views

Modernised semi with open fields to the rear

WITH fields to the rear, this modernised semi-detached house in Wednesfield is on the market based on offers in the region of £150,000.

The property in Lyndale Drive, Lyndale Park, has a lounge, adjoining dining room, refitted kitchen, three bedrooms, refitted bathroom, large frontage, rear gardens, off road parking and garage to rear.

On the ground floor the lounge, 13ft 5in by 11ft 5in, has patio doors to the rear patio area and archway to a dining room which is 8ft 5in by 7ft 8in, while the kitchen - 10ft 8in by 7ft 5in - has a range of wall and base units, roll top work surfaces, integrated fridge, freezer and washing machine, wine cooler and gas hob with double oven and extractor.

Greenhouse

On the first floor are three bedrooms and a family bathroom with panelled bath with shower and screen, wash basin in vanity unit and WC.

Outside to the front is ample off road parking, lawned area, trees, plants and shrubs with to the rear a paved patio area, lawns, trees, plants, shrubs, greenhouse with parking space for caravan/boat etc and garage. Call Connells on 01902 710170.



This semi-detached house in Lyndale Drive is on the market for offers in the region of £150,000

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Property

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Express & Star



K. Stuart Swash

PROPERTY AUCTION 1st October 2013



56 BICKFORD ROAD, FALLINGS PARK, WOLVERHAMPTON

Deceptively spacious three bedroome Semi . Lovely Lounge, big Kitchen. Bathroom pleasant, easy to maintain grounds. EPC 48. Guide: £69,000 / £74,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 27th & 28th SEPTEMBER @ 11.00 a.m.



22 BECKMINSTER ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON

Ripe for Renovation and with great potential. Three Beds, Two Reception, Kitchen and Bathroom areas, generous Garden. EPC 1. Guide: £70,000 / £75,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 27th & 28th SEPTEMBER @ 9.15 a.m.



14 LIME STREET, PENN FIELDS, WOLVERHAMPTON

Clean and well presented, newly installed Gas CH. Two Reception, Kitchen, smart white Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, EPC 66. Guide: £44,000 / £48,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 27th & 28th SEPTEMBER @ 10.15 a.m.



2A THORNYCROFT LANE, WOLVERHAMPTON

Investment Property, good location. Modern Three Bed Semi with through Lounge, Kitchen, Gas CH, garden and garage. Current income £5,520 pa. EPC 54. Guide: £73,000 / £78,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 27th & 28th SEPTEMBER @ 11.45 a.m.



97 MYATT AVENUE, PARKFIELDS, WOLVERHAMPTON

Generously proportioned and in a good location with open outlook to rear.

Large Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. Outside: Two Stores & W.C., lovely Garden. EPC 51.

Guide: £90,000 / £100,000
VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 27th & 28th SEPTEMBER @ 10.30 a.m.



73 THE LINDENS, NEWBRIDGE, WOLVERHAMPTON

Spacious Two Bed Second Floor Apartment with outlook across open green

Pleasant Lounge, fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Garage. EPC 51. Guide: £54,000 / £59,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 27th & 28th SEPTEMBER @ 12.45 p.m.



HEATH LANE, off BALL LANE, COVEN HEATH

4.4 acres (est.) Freehold Land and Buildings with long frontages to Heath

Lane and the Canal, currently

overgrown but with much potential.

Guide: £35,000 / £45,000

VIEWING: BY APPOINTMENT WITH AUCTIONEERS



19 BURLEIGH ROAD, PENN FIELDS, WOLVERHAMPTON

Mid Terraced with Two Reception, long Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Rear Garden and Garage. EPC 57. Guide: £73,000 / £78,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 27th & 28th SEPTEMBER @ 9.45 a.m.



637 PARKFIELD ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON
Well situated Mid Terraced, needing some improvement, Two Receptions, Kitchen, Cellar, Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, Rear Garden. EPC 41. Guide: £58,000 / £63,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 27th & 28th SEPTEMBER @ 11.15 a.m.



40 BEECH GREEN, DUDLEY
Well located Freehold Shop Unit in small parade in densely populated area. EPC awaited. EPC awaited. Guide: £28,000 / £33,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 27th & 28th SEPTEMBER @ 12.15 p.m.



41 TEMPLE ROAD, WILLENHALL
Investment - Freehold Mid Terraced. Two Reception, Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Bedrooms, Garden at rear. EPC 41. Guide: £50,000 / £55,000

VIEWING: SATURDAY 28th SEPTEMBER @ 11.45 a.m.



10 EMPRESS WAY, DARLINGTON
Well presented Two Bedrommed Bungalow. Large Lounge, fitted Kitchen, Garage, lovely part walled Rear Garden. EPC awaited. Guide: £72,000 / £77,000

VIEWING: FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 27th & 28th SEPTEMBER @ 1.15 p.m.

FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

(subject to Conditions and prior sale)

on TUESDAY 1st OCTOBER 2013

@ 6.30 p.m.

at the Ramada Park Hall Hotel, Park Drive, Goldthorn Park, Wolverhampton, WV4 5AJ

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Field Road, Bloxwich



Charles Street, Walsall



£84,995

Improved and refurbished three bedroom middle terrace family home having the benefit of gas central heating, no upward chain, new carpets and fresh decoration throughout. This splendid property further comprises, reception hall, lounge, refitted kitchen, refitted bathroom, separate W.C., three bedrooms with dressing area (used previous as a forth bedroom) and front and rear gardens. Energy rating D.



Stafford Road, Bloxwich



£220,000

A brand new Award Winning Development of superb modern apartments either shared ownership or outright buy having the benefit of double glazing and gas central heating. These lovely properties further comprise reception hall, modern open plan lounge/kitchen with balcony, two double bedrooms, family bathroom with en-suite and parking space. Prices from £82,000. CALL FOR FURTHER DETAILS.



Harness Close, Walsall



£159,995

Very well presented four double bedroom semi detached property. The accommodation benefits, gas central heating and double glazed windows. Comprising: Entrance hall with access to the cellar which, currently used as office, large lounge/dining room, modern kitchen/breakfast room, large L shaped conservatory, four double bedrooms, large bathroom, driveway with parking for several cars. To the rear of the property theres a large garden with a newly constructed two storey building which is currently used as a pub/games room. This fine property must be viewed internally to appreciate the space this home offers. Energy rating E.



Somerford Place, Willenhall



£150,000

REDUCED FOR QUICK SALE. Good sized four bedroom end of terrace family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. The property further comprises, reception hall, lounge, dining room, sitting room, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom (with additional shower cubicle), guest W.C., four good sized bedrooms, upstairs shower room and good size rear garden. Energy rating D.



Minewood Close, Bloxwich



£149,995

SUPERB PROPERTY THAT MUST BE VIEWED. NO UPWARD CHAIN. An extended and much improved three bedroom property in a Cul De Sac in a sought after location. This ideal family home benefits from UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and fitted intruder alarm. Whilst briefly comprising, porch, lounge, dining room extended and refitted kitchen, guest W.C. 3 double bedrooms, large family bathroom with additional shower cubicle, front and rear gardens, garage with extra parking at the side. Energy rating D.



Willows Road, Walsall



£139,995

A good sized, three bedroom, traditional semi detached family home having the benefit of majority UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. This lovely property further comprises, porch, reception hall, spacious through lounge, conservatory, fitted kitchen, laundry room, three bedrooms, family bathroom with shower, front and rear gardens and off road parking. Energy rating F.



Water Reed Grove, Bloxwich



£139,995

Recently built by David Wilson Homes this immaculate three bedroom house with a large spacious lounge, guest WC and a kitchen/dining room, three bedrooms, an en suite to the master bedroom and a further separate family bathroom, positioned close to Walsall and its local amenities, this site also boasts road, rail and bus links, with the canal boundary to the west. EPC rating B.



Darvel Road, Walsall



£134,995

An extended four bedroom end of terrace family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. This lovely property further comprises, porch, reception hall, lounge/diner, fitted kitchen/diner, down stairs shower room, four bedrooms, family bathroom with shower, separate W.C., front and rear gardens, off road parking and garage. Energy rating C.



Spring Road, Walsall



£125,000

An improved and upgraded semi detached family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. This lovely property further comprises, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, rear lobby, family bathroom with separate W.C., three bedrooms, attic room, communal parking nearby and rear garden with outbuilding (previously gym & office). Energy rating E.



Planetree Road, Walsall



£115,000

A two bedroom semi detached family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. The property further comprises, porch, reception hall, through lounge, kitchen/diner, two double bedrooms, family bathroom with Jacuzzi and additional shower cubicle, front and rear gardens and enclosed off road parking. Energy rating E.



Windmill Street, Wednesbury



£99,995

Located within this popular area is this good sized two bedroom mid terrace family home. The accommodation with gas central heating and UPVC double glazing briefly includes, lounge, kitchen and dining room, two double bedrooms, family bathroom with separate bath, Whilst outside the property boasts an enclosed rear garden. Energy rating C.



Anchor Drive, Tipton



£99,995

Located within the heart of Tipton overlooking Dudley Port Bridge and canal is this luxury first floor two bedroom apartment. The property benefits, good sized living room with Juliet balcony, dining room, kitchen/diner, two double bedrooms, en suite shower room, electric heating, entry phone, allocated parking. Energy rating B.



Francis Ward Close, West Bromwich



£99,950

MUST BE SOLD! A spacious three bedroom semi detached house for sale in a very popular area which benefits from no upward chain, UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. This delightful property further comprises reception hall, guest W.C., lounge, refitted kitchen, three bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear gardens, detached garage & parking to the rear. Energy rating E.



Station Road, Rushall



£90,000

A well presented and much improved two bedroom middle terrace family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. This lovely property further comprises, lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen, utility room/W.C., two double bedrooms, family bathroom and rear garden. Energy rating D.



Marsh Street, Walsall



£89,995

Located within the heart of Walsall and offering easy access to bus and train station, is this large two double bedroom second floor apartment. The property has a spacious living area and reception hall, modern fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, shower room. The apartment also benefits from a entry phone, intruder alarm, double glazing, electric central heating and a communal lift within the block. Currently rented out at £499pcm until Jan 2014. Energy rating B.



Elbow Street, Cradley Heath



£69,950

Situated within this attractive development is this spacious two bedroom first floor apartment. The property benefits from a good sized lounge with access to its own balcony, bedroom one with access to the balcony, modern fitted kitchen, white bathroom suite, electric heating, double glazed windows, entry phone, allocated parking and communal gardens. EPC rating D.



Larches Lane, Wolverhampton



£156,950

A superb improved and refurbished three bedroom middle terrace family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. This well presented property further comprises, reception hall, dining room, lounge, refitted kitchen with integrated appliances, ground floor refitted bathroom with additional shower cubicle, two first floor double bedrooms with attic being bedroom three, front and rear gardens and enclosed parking to the rear. Energy rating D.



Calstock Road, Willenhall



£134,995

A well presented three bedroom semi detached family home having the benefit of no upward chain, UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. This lovely property further comprises, reception hall, lounge, kitchen/diner, three bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear gardens, off road parking and garage. Energy rating C.



Butts Road, Walsall



£49,950

MUST BE VIEWED, NO UPWARD CHAIN. Energy rating D 63. Located off Lichfield Street within a quarter of a mile of the Arboretum is this ground floor one bedroom apartment. Set within an old converted school the apartment boasts a living area, luxury fitted kitchen area with integrated appliances, shower room with power shower, double glazing and secure allocated parking.

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Willenhall

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- Three Bedrooms • Bathroom
- Garage • Front & Rear gardens • No Chain

£164,950

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

COPPICE FARM
HILLBURY DRIVE

- Extended Improved Modern Style Semi Detached
- Lounge & Dining Kitchen • Conservatory • Utility
- Three Bedrooms • Bathroom • Energy rating D
- Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing
- Garage • Driveway • Rear Gardens

£159,950

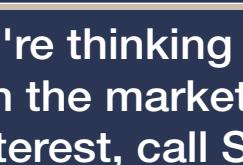
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AMPLEFORTH DRIVE

- Pleasantly appointed modern style detached property
- Three bedrooms • En suite • Family bathroom
- 18ft Full width rear lounge • Fitted kitchen
- Gas central heating • Double Glazing
- Garage and off road parking • Energy rating C

£154,950

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Auction
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October 2013
at 6.00pm Precisely

Banks's Stadium, Walsall
Football Club, Bescot
Crescent, Walsall, WS1 4SA



LOT 1
Trees Road
Walsall

Viewing: 27 Sep & 4 Oct at 1.45pm

A traditionally styled part gas centrally heated and double glazed semi detached property situated in a popular residential area. In need of further modernisation the property is set on a corner plot and comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Separate W.C., Lobby, Three Bedrooms, Fore, Side and Rear Garden. EPC Rating C

GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £70,000



LOT 2
Heathfield Lane West
Darlaston

Viewing: 27 Sep & 4 Oct at 2.30pm

In need of complete modernisation this traditionally styled semi-detached property offers an ideal opportunity for a builder. The accommodation comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Parking and Fore and Rear Gardens. EPC Rating F

GUIDE PRICE £30,000 - £40,000



LOT 3
Butts Road
Walsall

Viewing: 27th Sep & 4th Oct at 12.15pm

A spacious gas centrally heated first floor flat above shops in this convenient location in need of refurbishment. The property comprises: Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Separate W.C. EPC Rating D

GUIDE PRICE £33,000 - £38,000

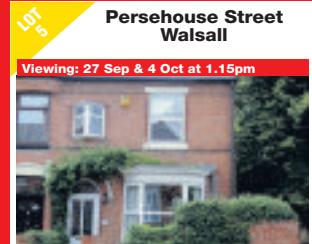


LOT 4
Lindon View
Brownhills

Viewing: 27 Sep & 4 Oct at 10.45am

A traditionally constructed end of terrace property in this popular residential location offering good sized living accommodation which requires improvement. Having gas central heating and upVC double glazing the property includes: Porch, Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Garden. EPC Rating C

GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £70,000

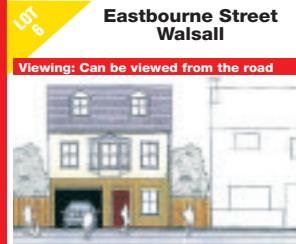


LOT 5
Persehouse Street
Walsall

Viewing: 27 Sep & 4 Oct at 1.15pm

Traditionally styled semi detached property situated in a prominent location close to Walsall Town Centre boasting gas fired central and double glazing, making an ideal purchase for a family or investor. Constructed of brick under a pitch tiled roof, the property is set back from the road behind a small foregarden and comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility Area, Lobby, Three Bedrooms, Study, Bathroom, Fore & Rear Garden. EPC Rating E

GUIDE PRICE £75,000 - £85,000



LOT 6
Eastbourne Street
Walsall

Viewing: Can be viewed from the road

A residential building plot with Outline Planning Permission for a three storey detached dwelling. Application Number 12/0869/FL. The plot is situated in a popular residential area, within a five minute drive of Walsall town centre.

GUIDE PRICE £30,000 - £40,000



LOT 7A
Darlaston Road
Wednesbury

Viewing: Strictly through Auctioneer

Former church with Planning Permission for demolition and erection of two pairs of semi detached properties and one detached property. Approved Planning Application No 13/0397/L dated 21st March. All enquiries regarding the Planning should be made to Walsall Council Planning Department. Prospective purchasers must undertake their own investigations with regard to ground conditions and contamination and fully satisfy themselves as to the suitability of the site for any use they may propose.

GUIDE PRICE £100,000 - £120,000



LOT 8
Sandringham Avenue
Willenhall

Viewing: Strictly through Auctioneer

CASH OFFERS ONLY This semi detached family home has been extended at ground floor level and also benefits from a loft conversion and offers well planned spacious accommodation in need of some modernisation, conveniently located on a popular development the property comprises: Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Dining Room, Breakfast Kitchen, Utility Area, Two First Floor Bedrooms, Bedroom Three/Study, Bathroom, One Second Floor Bedroom with En-Suite, Garage, Driveway, Rear Garden. EPC Rating D

GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £70,000



LOT 9
Harringworth Court
Rushall

Viewing: 27 Sep & 4 Oct at 11.15am

Purpose built ground floor flat with double glazing and conveniently located in need of some improvement making an ideal purchase for an investor. The property comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Communal Gardens and Garage in separate block. EPC Rating E

GUIDE PRICE £35,000 - £45,000



LOT 10
Houldey Road
Birmingham

No Viewings

This traditionally styled end of terrace residence has suffered substantial fire damage to its interior. Situated in a popular residential area the property is in need of complete modernisation and refitting and is therefore subject to cash offers only. We have not carried out an internal inspection as the property is currently boarded up, but we are informed by the vendor that it comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Fore and Rear Gardens.

GUIDE PRICE £30,000 - £35,000



LOT 11
Truro Road
Walsall

Viewing: Strictly through Auctioneer

Situated on the popular Park Hall Estate, this detached four bedroom property offers tremendous scope for further improvement but offers well planned accommodation with the benefit of gas central heating and double glazing. Set back from the road behind a driveway affording off street parking, the property comprises: Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Guest Cloakroom/Utility Area, Four Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens. EPC Rating D

GUIDE PRICE £190,000 - £210,000



LOT 12
Silverstone Close
Bentley

Viewing: Strictly through Auctioneer

A delightful, extended and improved detached family home set in a corner plot and needs to be viewed. The accommodation, which is gas centrally heated and double glazed comprises: Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Extended Breakfast Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens. EPC Rating E

GUIDE PRICE £90,000 - £110,000



LOT 13
Borneo Street
Walsall

Viewing: 27 Sep & 4 Oct at 12.45pm

A Victorian mid terraced property situated in a popular residential area in need of modernisation and improvement offering an ideal opportunity for a builder or investor. Conveniently located close to Walsall Town Centre, the property benefits from some double glazing and comprises of the following: Porch, Reception Hall, Front Living Room, Rear Living Room, Kitchen, Lobby, Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, W.C., Fore and Rear Garden. EPC Rating F

GUIDE PRICE £60,000 - £70,000



LOT 14
Tower Road
Sutton Coldfield

Viewing: 28 Sep at 3pm & 7 Oct at 5pm

This traditional two bedroom semi detached property has been partly improved by the current owners, yet still requires some modernisation and offers great potential to improve. The property comprises: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, Rear Lobby, Shower Room, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Driveway and Rear Garden. EPC Rating D

GUIDE PRICE £100,000 - £120,000

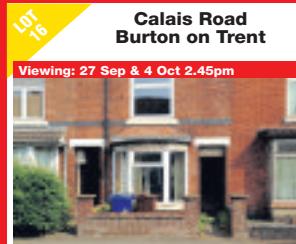


LOT 15
Daw End Lane
Rushall

No Viewings

A traditionally styled Victorian terraced property, conveniently located, benefitting from upvc double glazing. Currently let on a Regulated Tenancy at £350pm. The property comprises: Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Lobby, Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, Fore and Rear Gardens. EPC Rating G.

GUIDE PRICE £55,000 - £65,000



LOT 16
Calais Road
Burton on Trent

Viewing: 27 Sep & 4 Oct 2.45pm

A traditionally styled Victorian mid terraced property, conveniently located close to the hospital, that is in need of complete modernisation and improvement. The internal accommodation has not been inspected by the auctioneers as yet, but we are informed that it comprises: Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, Fore and Rear Garden. EPC Rating G.

GUIDE PRICE £55,000 - £60,000



LOT 17
Ryle Street
Blakenall

Viewing: 27 Sep & 4 Oct at 11.45am

In need of complete modernisation, this traditionally styled semi-detached property is set on a corner plot with off street parking. Ideally suited to the investor/builder market the property comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen (no fittings), Three Bedrooms, Fore, Side and Rear Garden. EPC Rating C

GUIDE PRICE £30,000 - £40,000



LOT 18
Bristol Road South
Birmingham

Viewing: Strictly through Auctioneer

The property is a prominent detached Grade II listed landmark building over two storeys, formerly a public house and more recently The Emerald Chinese Restaurant. Lending itself to a number of commercial uses or possible redevelopment (subject to Planning Consents), the property is located on the A38 approximately 4 miles from Birmingham City Centre and covers a site area of approximately one acre and consists of the following: Main Entrance into Restaurant Reception, two seating areas (approx 200 people), display counter, Open Plan Kitchen, W.C.s and further Kitchen Area, Two former large Function Rooms (80 people and 40 people), 4/5 Bedrooms, W.C.s, Large Car Park Facility, Full working Bowling Green with Club House.

GUIDE PRICE £400,000 - £500,000



LOT 19
Bells Lane
Birmingham

Viewing: Strictly through Auctioneer

This traditionally styled double fronted detached residence is conveniently located and is in need of moderate modernisation and improvement. With gas fired central heating and upVC double glazing, the property is set on a good size plot with rear courtyard and outbuildings with lawned garden beyond. The accommodation comprises: Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Breakfast Kitchen, Utility, W.C., Two Bedrooms, Further Room giving access to Bathroom, Garage, Courtyard with Carports and Two Storey former stable split into two store rooms and first floor room.

GUIDE PRICE £100,000 - £120,000



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L & S PRESTIGE ESTATES

46 High Road, Lane Head, Willenhall, WV12 4JQ



	KEYSMOTH CL, WILLENHALL Well Presented Ground Floor Apartment Comprising Of Communal Entrance Hall, Private Hallway, Spacious Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Allocated Parking And Being Close To Good Schools, Transport Links And Amenities. £79,995		BENTLEY LANE, WILLENHALL Modern Refurbished Three Bed Three Storey Semi Having Lounge, Stylish Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Two Bedrooms On First Floor With A Further Bedroom To The Second Floor, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating And Landscaped Garden. MUST VIEW. Offers over £119,950		POOLE LANE, SHORT HEATH Substantial Six Bedroom Detached Property Comprising Of Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Reception Room, Kitchen, Dining Area, Playroom, Ground Floor W.C, Six Bedrooms, Bathroom, Separate Studio/Annexe. Potential, Integral Garage, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Block Paved Driveway, Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden. £294,995		GRENVILLE CLOSE, BENTLEY Well Presented First Floor Flat Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Stairs To First Floor, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, D/Glazing, Garage In A Separate Block. Great Buy To Let Investment. £54,995		WENTBRIDGE ROAD, W'TON One Bed Ground Floor Flat Having Entrance Hallway, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Double Bedroom, Family Bathroom, Two Large Storage Areas, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Outside Brick Store, Rear Garden. £61,500						
	GIPSY LANE, WILLENHALL Three Bed Mid Terraced Property Having Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Located In The Willenhall Town Centre Giving You Access To Good Local Amenities, Schools And Transport Links. Great Investment Property. £79,995		REGENT ST, WILLENHALL Well Presented Two Bed End Terraced Property Having Two Reception Rooms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Cul-De-Sac Location. IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY. £82,000		DEVON RD, WILLENHALL Immaculately Presented Spacious Two Bed Ground Floor Flat Having Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Rear Garden & Secure Parking. £84,995		COLTHAM RD, SHORT HEATH Fully Refurbished Two Bed Mid Terraced Property Having Lounge, Spacious Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility, Ground Floor W.C, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing & Gas C/Heating, GREAT FTB. £89,995		SQUIRES GR, N. INVENTION Two Bed Mid Terraced Apartment Having Communal Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen Diner, Two Double Bedrooms, Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Electric Heating, UPVC Double Glazing And Allocated Parking. £89,995		QUEENS LEA, WILLENHALL Two Bed Mid Terraced Property Comprising Of Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen Diner, Two Double Bedrooms, Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Electric Heating, D/Glazing, Off Road Parking. The Property Is Located Close To Good Local Schools, Transport Links And Amenities. Great FTB. £89,995		DIBBLE CLOSE, WILLENHALL Well Presented Three Bed Mid Town House Having Entrance Hall, Lounge, Modern Kitchen Diner, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Separate W.C, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Parking To The Rear. Ideal FTB Or Buy To Let. £94,500		DIBBLE CLOSE, WILLENHALL Well Presented Three Bedroom Mid Town-House Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Spacious Kitchen, Lounge, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Separate W.C, Modern Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating And Enclosed Rear Garden. £95,000
	BLOXWICH RD, LEAMORE Spacious Two Bed Semi-Detached Having Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms With Fitted Wardrobes, Family Bathroom With Separate Shower, D/Glazing, C/Heating & Off Road Parking. £99,995		WREXHAM AVE, BENTLEY Property Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Shower Room, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Detached Garage, Brick Storage Room & Off Road Parking. £99,995		LEVEN DR, COPPIE FARM Well Presented Two Bed Semi-Detached Located On The Popular Coppice Farm Estate Having Lounge, Fitted Kitchen With Integrated Oven & Hob, Two Bedrooms Master With Fitted Wardrobes, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating & Off Road Parking. £109,995		PINFOLD ST, DARLASTON Victorian Two Bed Semi Having Extended Porch, Refitted Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C, Two Double Bedrooms, Modern Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating & Generous Rear Garden. £109,995		ST CHADS ROAD, BILSTON Extended Two Bed Detached Having Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Dining/Utility Area, Wet Room, C/Heating, Majority D/Glazing, Off Road Parking, Front And Rear Gardens. Ideal Investment. NO CHAIN. £112,500		HIGH ROAD, WILLENHALL Well Presented Three Bed Detached Property Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility, Three Good Sized Bedrooms, Bathroom, Cellar, D/Glazing, C/Heating & Off Road Parking. MUST VIEW. £124,995		SQUIRES GR, N. INVENTION Modern Three Bed Town House On The Much Sought After Squires Grove Development In New Invention Having Spacious Lounge, Kitchen Diner, Three Double Bedrooms, Master With En-Suite, Fitted Wardrobe, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/Heating, Enclosed Rear Garden & Driveway. £129,995		JOHNSON RD, DARLASTON Well Presented Extended Three Bed End Town House Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Inner Hallway, Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Extended Lounge, Three Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Good Sized Front And Rear Gardens With Off Road Parking. £132,995
	OAKRIDGE CL, WILLENHALL Three Bed Detached Property In Need Of Some Updating Comprising Of Lounge, Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Shower Room, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden And Driveway. £129,995		WILLENHALL RD, W'TON Well Presented, Modern, Three Storey Town House Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Spacious Kitchen Diner, Three Double Bedrooms, Two With En-Suite, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Off Road Parking, Rear Garden. £134,995		HONEYBOURNE WAY, WILLENHALL Three Bed Semi-Detached Property Comprising Of Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Garage, D/Glazing, C/Heating And Off Road Parking. Located Close To Good Local Schools, Amenities And Transport Links. £134,995		DARVEL RD, WILLENHALL Immaculately Presented Three Bed Link Detached Having Porch, Lounge, Two Reception Rooms, Stylish Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Integral Garage, Driveway & Landscaped Gardens. Must View To Appreciate. £139,995		ENSBURY CLOSE, WILLENHALL Three Bed Link Detached Property Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C, Three Double Bedrooms, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Garage, Enclosed Garden, Driveway. £142,995		MANOR FARM DR, W'HALL Extended Four Bed Semi Having Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility, Ground Floor W.C, Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Integral Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden. Accessed Via A Private Driveway. £159,995		SOMERSFORD CL, CHES HAY Well Presented & Spacious Four Bed Semi Having Porch, Spacious Lounge, Kitchen Diner, Three Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Modern Refitted Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage, Store Area & Block Paved Driveway. £160,000		ABERFORD CL, WILLENHALL Five Bed Semi Detached Having Lounge, Spacious Kitchen, Dining Room, Family Bathroom, Separate Shower Room, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Integral Garage, Front & Rear Gardens. Cul-De-Sac Location. £169,995
	JAMES STREET, WILLENHALL Four Bed Detached Property Having Lounge, Modern Kitchen Diner, Ground Floor W.C, Master With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Tandem Garage, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Sought After Location. £184,995		ESSINGTON RD, ESSINGTON Decently Spacious, Extended Four Bedroom, Three Storey End Terraced Property Having Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Utility, Ground Floor W.C, Extended Breakfast Kitchen/Diner, Separate Utility, Master With Fitted Wardrobes & Shower, Family Bathroom With Separate Shower, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage & Driveway. MUST VIEW. £189,995		MILESTONE WAY, COP FARM Three Bed Semi-Detached Property Comprising Of Entrance Porch And Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen Diner, Utility, Ground Floor W.C, Extended Breakfast Kitchen/Diner, Separate Utility, Master With Fitted Wardrobes & Shower, Family Bathroom With Separate Shower, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Integral Garage, Driveway, Enclosed Rear Garden, Being Close To Good Local Schools, Transport Links And Amenities. £139,995		FARBOOK WAY, W'HALL Three Bed Semi On The Popular Summer Hayes Estate Having Entrance Hallway, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Three Double Bedrooms, Fitted Bathrooms, Major Up To D/Glazing, C/Heating, Detached Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden & Driveway. £124,995		MEMORY LANE, DARLASTON Three Bed Semi-Detached House Comprising Of Lounge, Kitchen Diner, Three Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Separate Shower Room, Playroom And A Fourth Bedroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Detached Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden. £129,995		RADSTOCK ROAD, WILLENHALL Three Bedroom Semi-Detached Property Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Bedroom, Three Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Driveway, Private Enclosed Garden. Viewing Highly Recommended! £142,500		FIBBERSLEY, WILLENHALL Heavily Extended Three/Four Bed Semi Having Two Reception Rooms, Spacious Kitchen, Separate Utility, Ground Floor W.C, Master Bedroom With Separate Dressing Room/Bed Four, Luxury Bathroom With Jacuzzi Bath & Separate Shower, Family Bathroom With Jacuzzi Bath, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Detached Games Room, Driveway. Offers over £215,000		WOOD LANE CL, SHORT HEATH Superb Three Bedroom Detached Dormer Bungalow Comprising Of Spacious Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Utility Room, Shower Room, Family Bathroom With Jacuzzi Bath, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Rear Garden, Garage & Driveway. £240,000
	LOWER LICHFIELD ST, W'HALL Spacious One And Half Detached Flat Comprises Of Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Bathroom With Shower, Stairs To Double Bedroom, D/Glazing. Close To Willenhall Town Centre. £375 PCM		BIRCHCOPPIE GDNS, W'HALL Well Presented One Bedroom Ground Floor Flat Comprising Of Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Bedroom With Built In Storage Cupboards, Shower Room, D/Glazing. Private Garden To The Rear. Located In A Quiet Cul De Sac Close To Good Local Amenities And Transport Links. £395 PCM		DILLOWAYS LN, W'HALL Well Presented First Floor Flat Comprising Of Entrance Hall, Stairs To First Floor, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Shower Room, C/Heating, D/Glazing, Off Road Parking And Rear Garden. Viewing Recommended! £400 PCM		BIRMINGHAM ST, W'HALL Well Presented Three Bed End Of Terrace Property Comprising Of Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Double Bedrooms, Shower Room, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Located Close To Good Local Amenities, Schools And Transport Links, An Ideal Family Home. £475 PCM		SPROAT AVENUE, DARLASTON Three Bed Property Comprising Of Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom, Three Double Bedrooms, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garden To The Fore And A Large Rear Garden. £500 PCM		HARPER ST, WILLENHALL Modern Four Bed Town House Having Entrance Hallway, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Ground Floor W.C, Four Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Allocated Parking And Enclosed Rear Garden. £550 PCM		KEATS ROAD, SHORT HEATH Modern Four Bed Town House Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C, Four Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage, Driveway And Enclosed Rear Garden. BE QUICK FOR THIS ONE! £525 PCM		PINENEEDLE CROFT, W'HALL Immaculately Presented Three Bed Semi-Detached Property Having Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Dining Area, Conservatory, Three Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Shower Room, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Garage, Driveway And Enclosed Rear Garden. BE QUICK FOR THIS ONE! £600 PCM

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- Extensive Rear Garden•Driveway
- Off Road Parking and Garage
- D.Glazing & Gas C.Heating

£369,950



Walsall
Cannerton Road

- Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Large Open Plan Living Area
- Kitchen•Shower Room
- Front Garden•Utility Room
- Garage & Parking

In the Region of £279,950



Shelfield
Green Lane

- Four Double Bedrooms
- Two En-Suites•Conservatory
- Guest W.C.●Loft Room•Garage
- Clay Block paved Driveway & Patio Area
- Family bathroom•Close to Shelfield

In the Region of £229,950



Willetts Hill
Thompson Street

- FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED
- Hallway•Lounge•Dining room
- Fitted Kitchen•Downstairs W.C
- En-suite•Family bathroom•Garage
- Gas central heating•off road parking

Offers in excess of £199,995



Walsall
Lichfield Road

- Extended Five Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Through Lounge/Dining Room
- Extended Kitchen•Garage & Driveway
- Ground Floor Shower Room•Bathroom
- Conservatory•Front & Rear Gardens

In the Region of £189,950



Bloxwich
Bassett Close

- Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Lounge•Large Kitchen/Dining Room
- Family Bathroom•Separate WC
- Covered Side Access•Front & Rear Gardens

In the Region of £189,500



Walsall
Hobart Drive

- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Rear view over Golf Course
- Two Reception Rooms•Kitchen
- Plans available for further Modernization
- No Upward chain•Large Garage/Lobby

Offers in excess of £180,000



Bloxwich
Linthurst Baytree Court

- Four Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Fitted Kitchen•Lounge/Diner
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Family Bathroom•Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage & Off Road Parking

£179,950



Walsall
Duchess Road

- Four Bedroom Detached
- Two Reception Rooms•Kitchen
- Utility•Breakfast Room•En-Suite
- Family Bathroom•Conservatory
- Integrated Garage & Off Road Parking

Offers in excess of £177,000



Willenhall
Crab Lane

- Four Bedroom Link-Detached
- Through Lounge/Diner/Kitchen
- Ground Floor Shower Room
- First Floor Shower Room•Utility Room
- Garage & Off Road Parking•Gardens

Offers in excess of £175,000



Bloxwich
Green Rock Lane

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Two Reception Rooms•Corner Plot
- Kitchen•Ground Floor Shower Room
- Nearly Fitted Bathrooms•Guest W.C.
- Large Detached Garage

In the Region of £165,000



Bloxwich
Millfield Avenue

- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen•Ground Floor Wet Room
- Bathroom•Gardens•Parking & Garage
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

In the Region of £164,950



Bloxwich
Simmonds Road

- Extended Four Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Lounge•Dining Room
- Extended Kitchen•Garage/Utility
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Central Heating & Double Glazing

Offers in excess of £155,000



Willenhall
Longmead Rise

- Four Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Four Bedrooms•Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom/Gardens
- D.Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Driveway & off Road Parking•Garage

£150,000



Willenhall
Pattenham Close

- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Fitted Kitchen
- En-Suite•Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens•Parking
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

In the Region of £149,950



Bloxwich
Simmonds Road

- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Newly Fitted Kitchen/Diner•Utility
- Conservatory•Bathroom with shower
- Gardens•Garage & Driveway

£142,250



Willenhall
Furzebank Way

- Two Bed Semi-Detached Bungalow
- Through Lounge/Dining Room
- Newly Fitted Kitchen/Bathroom
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Front & Rear Gardens•Garage & Parking

In the Region of £139,950



Willenhall
John Riley Drive

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Lounge•Family Bathroom
- Fitted Kitchen•D.Glazing & Gas Heating
- Front & Rear Gardens

In the Region of £136,995



Walsall
Smithie Flour Mill

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- Lounge•Integrated Kitchen
- Electric Heating & Double Glazing
- Family Bathroom
- Allocated Parking

Offers in excess of £125,000



Walsall
Deepmore Avenue

- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Extended Kitchen/Diner•Utility
- Downstairs W.C.●Bathroom•Lounge
- Front Driveway with Off Road Parking
- Landscaped Rear Garden

In the Region of £124,950



Walsall
Wolverhampton Street

- Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Open Living Area•Family Bathroom
- Kitchen with Integrated Appliances
- Double Glazing & Electric Heating
- Secure Allocated Parking

Offers in excess of £120,000



Walsall
Raymond Close

- Two Bed Semi-Detached
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Kitchen•Bathroom•Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing•Separate W.C.
- Garage•Driveway

£110,000



Walsall
Bloxwich Road

- Three Bedroom Traditional Semi
- Double Glazing•Gas Central Heating
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen & Veranda•Family Bathroom
- Extensive Rear Garden

Offers in excess of £110,000



Bloxwich
Mulberry Place

- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Two Reception Rooms•Kitchen
- Family Bathroom•Front & Rear Gardens
- Gas Heating & Double Glazing (Where Specified)

In the Region of £109,950



Willenhall
Squires Grove

- Two Bedroom Coach House Apartment
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Converted Garage
- Allocated Parking•DG & GCH

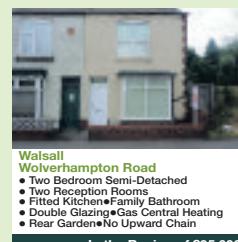
£105,000



Willenhall
Lodge Street

- Extended Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
- Lounge●Re-Fitted Breakfast Kitchen
- Diner•Utility Room
- En-Suite•Rear Garden•Driveway
- Garage to Rear with Gated Access

In the Region of £99,950



Walsall
Wolverhampton Road

- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Family Bathroom•En-Suite
- Double Glazing•Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden•No Upward Chain

In the Region of £95,000



Walsall
Bloxwich Lane

- Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
- Lounge•Through Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom•Gardens
- Block Paved Driveway to Rear
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

Offers in excess of £90,000



Walsall
Star Close

- Three Bedroom End-Terrace
- Lounge•Kitchen/Dining Room
- Family Bathroom•Shower Room
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Front Garden•Enclosed Rear Garden

Offers in excess of £90,000



Bloxwich
Margam Crescent

- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Lounge•Fitted Kitchen
- Breakfast Room/Dining Room
- Family Bathroom•Loft Room Conversion
- Rear Garden•Off Street Parking

Offers in excess of £85,000



Bloxwich
Newhams Way

- Two Bedroom Ground Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- Family Bathroom with Shower
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Secure Communal Entrance•Communal

Offers in excess of £80,000



Bloxwich
Cook Road

- SELLERS ONLY
- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Open Plan Lounge/Dining Room
- Bathroom•Separate W.C.
- Garage●D.Glazing & Central Heating

In the Region of £80,000



Bloxwich
Wye Road

- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Lounge•Through Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom•Gardens
- D.Glazing & Central Heating
- Garage & Off Road Parking

In the Region of £79,950



Bloxwich
Sherlock Close

- One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- Bathroom with Shower
- Double Glazing & Electric Heating
- Shared Garden•Off Road Parking

In the Region of £69,995



Willenhall
Argyll Court Essington Road

- One Bedroom Apartment
- Lounge•Fitted Kitchen
- Secure Communal Entrance
- Communal Grounds
- Secure Allocated Parking

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EPC D

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EPC D

Tedder Road, Walsall



£100,000

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Awaiting EPC

Birmingham Street, Willenhall



Awaiting EPC

Consort Drive, Wednesbury



£90,000

A well presented two bedroom home situated on the popular "Victoria Mews" development having been extensively improved by the current owners.

Awaiting EPC

Cinder Way, Wednesbury



£30,000

A two bedroom ground floor apartment with re-fitted kitchen. Benefiting from having been improved by the current owners and offers allocated parking.

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Webster Road, Willenhall



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EPC D

£95,000

A stunningly presented three bedroom home situated close to Willenhall Town Centre and ideally located for Jct. 10 M6.

Awaiting EPC

Motoring

Compiled by Motoring
Editor Sharon Walters

Seat set to put new Leon through its paces

LONG-term tests are about living with a car every day, doing all kinds of driving, and exposing the best and the worst of what real buyers will see for themselves. There are many things that a few hours behind the wheel on a new car launch just can't tell you.

Seat has put a lot of investment into the new Leon in an attempt to cut the gap on the perennial sales bonanza enjoyed by its sister car, the Volkswagen Golf.

While the Golf has become ever more straight-line sensible in its styling though, the Leon has brought together a stunning combination of curves, angles and overall poise to create something that looks much more interesting. The question is: does it match up?

This is what I'm aiming to find out by taking delivery of a just-run-in five-door Leon for the next six months. I've picked the mid-range SE model, which has a lot of little touches over and above the base S grade version, but is a healthy amount cheaper than the body-kitted and more ostentatious FR. I've also chosen a petrol engine, in light of the incredible work the Volkswagen Group has done to improve the driveability and efficiency of its unleaded-drinking powerplants.

Pages upon pages have been written about the 104bhp 1.2-litre TSI turbocharged petrol and it's fairly well known as a great unit. In light of that, I've opted for its big brother, the 138bhp 1.4 TSI. It's going to be interesting to



The new SEAT Leon, a stunning combination curves, angles and overall poise

see whether it can justify the extra £1,050 over the 1.2. They share a road tax band but the 1.4 is four insurance groups lower and allegedly 3mpg more frugal, so I'll be aiming to see whether the higher performance from the 1.4 is worth it.

In terms of options, OU13 YBM has got only the key ones Seat reckons will be most popular with buyers. Chief among them is the Technology Pack, which brings with it full LED headlights – a first for any C-segment car – along with DAB radio and sat-nav courtesy of a good-sized colour screen mounted reasonably high

up on the dashboard. Initially Seat dropped the pack's near-£1,100 price to £500, but further down the line it became, amazingly, free of charge.

Technology

The headlights are a big deal for Seat and the market in general and after much deal-making within the VW Group, the Leon has secured first rights to the new technology, even ahead of the Golf and Audi A3.

The idea behind LED headlights is not just that they use much less energy than traditional bulbs or high-intensity xenon lamps; the light



Seat has put a lot of investment into the new Leon in a bid to boost sales

the special LEDs create is closer in colour to natural daylight than any alternatives, allegedly making it easier for the human eye to distinguish contrast and movement within the beam. As the nights draw in later this year, I'll have the perfect opportunity to test the theory.

On top of the Technology Pack there are 17in alloy wheels, which certainly fill the wheel arches more convincingly but could also be more exposed to damage from kerbs. I'll look into this and see whether the move was a wise one or not.

Other than that, the car is standard, so with

the Golf lined up as a significantly more expensive option and the Skoda Octavia perhaps being bigger than some people want or need, the time has come for the Leon to prove itself within the VW Group. I'm going to pile the miles on it, encompassing driving at every time of day and night, motorway trips, urban scrapping, Sunday afternoon blasts and of course the weekly shop. My partner, Laura, will also be driving it, and since most family cars are shared between parents, her opinion will be invaluable. It's game on, Leon, so let's see what you're made of.

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New Civic delivers on promise of top mileage

HONDA has fitted 'magic seats' to its new Civic but you will find the real box of tricks under its bonnet.

Scan down the spec sheet and one figure jumps out – incredible mileage claims of 78.5 per gallon could sell a car in its own right.

The 1.6-litre engine, which is built in Swindon, is aimed purely at the European market and the hunger for low CO₂ and high mpg figures. In its publicity pack, Honda boasts that the new engine can get you from London to Paris and back twice on just one tank.

I didn't test that 863-mile distance but the fuel needle refused to budge on my weekly commute and only really started moving on a trip up North.

The engine not only saves you a huge amount of cash on the forecourt, but also on road tax and congestion charge where applicable.

With all the focus on the engine it's easy to forget that the Civic also performs well, looks good and is brilliantly equipped. Some eco-model cars feel sluggish and uninspiring to drive, but there is a good combination of acceleration and mid-range pull behind the wheel.

It's quite a big car to drive, but is still an agile performer with a smooth ride.

It's also an attractive looking car with the five-door family sized model looking like it belongs on a catwalk rather than a car park.

Float

The wrap-around glass on the front, from days of old, has gone and the mid-window mounted rear lights now jut out from the window and appear to float in the air.

It still looks low to the ground and athletic with concealed rear door handles, shark-fin antenna and 16in alloy wheels.

On the inside the car has been laid out like the cockpit of a fighter jet. The instruments are wrapped around the driver and are all easily accessible and easy to use.

The six-speed gear stick sits quite high in the central well below a clever touch-screen system that houses an easy-to-use sat-nav, DAB radio and premium audio system.

All models have an Idle Stop button that can be switched on and off. Base models come in at under £20,000 and include LED daytime running lights, climate control, CD and heated wing mirrors to name a few.

The mid-range ES model adds cruise control, a rear view reversing camera, Bluetooth hands-free and an ultrasonic alarm.

The EX tested had HDD navigation, premium sound system with subwoofer, parking sensors and heated leather seats.

Honda says it has worked hard to limit the noise inside the car, but the wind noise at motorway speeds was probably my only bug bear on this car, and that was a hard one to find.

The boot is the biggest in its class and there is loads of head and legroom for driver and passengers.

Not content with innovations in clever radar safety systems and engine turbochargers, Honda has even waved the wand with the seats.

They are billed as 'magic' and lift up, fold over and lock down in one easy movement for a quick 60/40 split.

But even when somebody is sat in them there are huge spaces underneath the bases to store bulky items and there is the chance to slide through to the boot space.

In the safety stakes the Civic has been rated as one of Europe's safest cars by NCAP.

Honda is still a trailblazer in innovation and is always trying to improve fuel efficiency, performance and safety.

The launch of this clever car with smart engine is a shot across the bows of competitors like VW, Ford and Audi who may have to find a little bit of magical inspiration themselves.

Bumper to bumper

Honda Civic

Price: £23,675
Mechanical: 1.597cc, 120bhp, turbocharged iTEC diesel engine driving front wheels via six-speed manual transmission
Max speed: 129 mph
0-62mph: 10.5 secs
Combined mpg: 78.5mpg
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CO₂ emissions: 94g/km
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By Bill McCarthy

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Promoted side fight back from goal down

Trafford 3
Rushall Olympic 1
THE PICS' seven game unbeaten run came to an end on Saturday when newly promoted Trafford hit back from goal down.

Chris Gemmell was injured in training on Thursday so Lewis Solly returned to the starting line up and it was the visitors who got off to a great start when midfielder Josh Craddock put the PICS ahead on five minutes, firing home a free-kick.

Moments later Dele Adebola appeared to have been tripped in the area but the referee waved play on.

Level

Gradually the home side began to play themselves back in the game and were level two minutes before the break when a cross from Shelton Paine was turned home by Michael Oates.

Four minutes into the second half though the home side were ahead as Paine's ball to the far post was turned in by Paul Ashton and he added his second on the hour.

The PICS travelled to Barwell for a league game on Tuesday night and on Saturday take a break from league to travel to Skrill North side Gainsborough Trinity for a second qualifying round FA Cup tie.

Pics miss chance to go second

Rushall Olympic 1

Nantwich Town 1

RUSHALL Olympic missed a golden opportunity to move up into second place, in the Evo-Stik Premier Division, when they were held to a disappointing 1-1 draw by Nantwich Town last Wednesday evening.

The draw extended the PICS unbeaten run to seven games but they will see this as two points wasted.

On a frustrating night at Dales Lane, the home side made a bright start and were almost ahead in the opening minute, but Terry Smith produced a good diving save to tip Ahmed Obeng's effort over the bar.

Little had been seen of the home side but on the half hour PICS keeper Chris Gemmell was forced into a smart stop to keep out a volley from Tom Moore.

Four minutes into the second half the visitors went ahead when Aaron Burns was given too much time and space and he hammered a left foot shot past Gemmell.

The home side got back into the game in the 61st minute through Josh Craddock who hit a half-volley in to the top corner from the edge of the box.

School pupils on right track

SCHOOLS from Walsall competed in a series of athletic events mirroring the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Nineteen secondary schools took part in 19 track and field events at the Alexander Stadium in Perry Barr last Wednesday for the Walsall Schools' Athletics championships.

The Mayor Mohammed Nazir, along with Madeleine Holland, presented medals throughout the day, which celebrated the 10th year of Joseph Leckie Academy organising the event.

Hearts are broken by last-gasp strike

Walsall Wood 3 AFC Wulfrunians 4 (After Extra Time) F.A. Cup 1st Qualifying Round Replay.

A GOAL literally seconds from the end of extra time was all that separated the teams after two hours of drama at Oak Park.

Thomas Piggott fired Wulfs into the next round and a trip to Stamford on Saturday, but Wood who had been down to 10 men from the 71st minute had battled heroically to keep the tie alive.

In fact they could have scored just before the end of 90 minutes when Ahmet Bilgimer's chip fell agonisingly wide.

Wulfs had slightly the better of

the early exchanges, then on nine minutes a rash challenge on the right of centre just outside the box was punished by a pinpoint free kick into the bottom right hand corner by Jake Sedgemore.

Wood levelled on 26 minutes. Curritthers was fouled wide left and the free kick from Harry Harris was spilled by under pressure keeper Daniel Tipton. Lewis Taylor Boyce heading home the loose ball.

Three minutes later a through ball from Taylor Boyce put Ahmet Bilgimer racing through the centre of the Wulfs defence and he kept

his composure to put Wood ahead

Walsall Wood

for the first time in the tie. The last goalmouth action of the half saw a Jamie Hawkins crossfield ball find Taylor Boyce who came inside, went through two tackles before firing wide.

Wulfs were first to threaten in the second half and on 59 minutes they duly drew level.

A ball over the top saw Scott Cooper lose his footing, leaving Gregg clear to run on and score past the advancing Wiggin.

On 67 minutes a right wing free kick from Sedgemore was pushed round his left hand post by Wiggin

at full stretch. It got worse for Wood four minutes later as Cooper was robbed by Gregg just outside the box, the defender's desperate lunge bringing down the striker right on the edge. After a discussion with his assistant the referee pointed to the spot and brandished a red card to Cooper.

Up stepped Sedgemore to calmly slot home the penalty. It could have been all over on 73 minutes, substitute Jake Webb racing clear on the right before laying the ball into the path of Piggott whose angled first time effort bounced to safety off the far angle.

Wood went looking for the

equaliser and it came in the 85th minutes, as Harris powered home from a Curritthers cross.

There weren't too many chances in extra time, but with everyone looking at the clock a last punt into the box saw Piggott take control and fire into the roof of the net and break Wood's hearts.

There was just time for the restart before the final whistle, of a game neither side deserved to lose.

It's now five hours of football between the sides with Wulfs now 7-6 ahead or the next scheduled game between the sides on March 8 next year.

Blues old boy steps off bench to change game

Walsall Wood 1 Loughborough University 2
ANOTHER odd goal defeat for Wood with former Birmingham and Alvechurch player Tristan Dunkley coming of the bench to change the game from his 52nd minute introduction.

He won the 76th minute penalty equaliser before a superb run and finish saw him hit the winner eight minutes later.

Loughborough keeper Brendan Hazlett had looked suspect under pressure and on 16 minutes he rolled the ball out of the box to his full back, who was caught in possession by Lewis Taylor Boyce. His measured ball inside to Harry Harris saw him sidestep a desperate challenge and calmly fire a cross shot into the far corner to put Wood ahead.

Deflected

With 26 minutes gone Taylor Boyce won the ball wide left, went through two tackles and found Ahmet Bilgimer, whose cheeky chip beat the keeper but bounced behind off the top of the bar.

Five minutes later Jack Emmett intercepted an attempted Wood clearance, and cut into the left of the box. His low drive deflected off Wood skipper Lee Stretton and keeper Mark Wiggin had to change direction to make a full length save.

A minute later Alan Webb raced into the right of the box, Cooper to the rescue with a great last ditch challenge. Seven minutes into the second half, Wiggin had to change direction to make a full length save.

Wood were facing Continental Star in the League Cup on Tuesday night before visiting Stourport Swifts on Saturday.

Walsall Wood

Andre Gonzales calmly cleared off the line.

Samson Alalade put a header wide from a right wing free kick on 70 minutes before three minutes later he turned provider releasing Taylor Boyce into the right of the box to fire a cross shot just wide. A minute later Stretton went racing down the Wood left, his cross cum shot slapped from under his bar by Hazlett.

It proved a turning point as on 76 minutes Dunkley raced onto a measured ball and into the left of the box, Scott Cooper mistimed his challenge and the referee pointed to the spot. Kieran Kenlock calmly despatching the penalty to equalise.

The goal knocked the heart out of Wood. They threatened on 83 minutes but Hazlett held on to Taylor Boyce's effort.

Only a minute later, Dunkley picked the ball up wide on the left, showing good close control and cut inside, evading a tackle and firing into the roof of the net.

Wood were facing Continental Star in the League Cup on Tuesday night before visiting Stourport Swifts on Saturday.

Players beat hosts to net tournament win



BARR Beacon Netball Club took a squad of 10 to the two-day Nottingham City Netball Tournament and the girls were victorious in the under-14 plate tournament after beating Nottingham City 11-2 in their final match. Pictured, from left, are Montana White, Grace Wilde, Chloe Harrison, Mia Linehan, Tracey Green (coach), Nikki Green, Francesca Jackson, Lauren Bates and Becky Saxon

That's the spirit as skipper leads the way



Skipper Andy Butler celebrates

SADDLERS boss Dean Smith paid tribute to derby hero Andy Butler and claimed his captain epitomises Walsall's superb spirit.

Butler netted the only goal against Wolves to claim his side's first win at Molineux for more than 14 years.

The 29-year-old has flourished under Smith's tutelage since being made skipper two-and-a-half years ago and the manager admitted there was no more fitting player to bag the winner on a memorable night for the club.

And he believes Butler is just one of several leaders he can call on, both on the pitch and in the dressing room.

"Since I have been in charge he has been my captain and he has been fantastic out there for Walsall," he said.

"He's developed. He is one

of those players you look at and he wants to get better and keep developing.

"Andy was 27 or 28 when I took over and it just goes to show you are never too old to learn.

"He leads by example but there are a number of them out there who do as well, the Chambers brothers are another two like that.

Winner

"You've got Dean Holden who is not even in the 18 at the moment but he has sat in the stands and come down at half-time to discuss what he's seen. "It just shows the spirit we have got here."

Butler, the first Walsall player to net a winner at Wolves since Andy Rammell in 1999, was quick to hail the Saddlers stars for what he

described as a superb team performance. He said: "You can't ask for more than a 1-0 win and a goal but it came from every single player working hard, including the lads who were on the bench."

"We didn't come here and sit back and soak it up, we went at it from the first minute and I think we dominated the game towards the end."

"We have shown what we can do when we put our minds to it. No-one shirked a challenge."

Opposite number Sam Rickerts apologised to Wolves fans after Kenny Jackett's side suffered their first defeat of the season after seven games.

"We're hurting just as much as they are – it's a blow because you never want to get beaten," said the Wales international.



Dejected Bjorn Sigurdarson

Eight tries as league campaign off to flier

Aldridge 54 Whittington 0
ALDRIDGE Rugby Club got their league campaign off to a cracking start with this comprehensive victory.

The initial skirmishes appeared even but after 12 minutes, a try from Aldridge winger Dan McKenna started the scoreboard ticking over.

On 20 minutes, a back row move initiated by No8 Chris Balmforth, put flanker Alex Holding in the clear and over between the posts and in the final five minutes of the half two fine pieces of individual running produced tries respectively for centre Louis Durant and Reed, who clinched the bonus try right at the break.

Effort

Twenty eight points adrift, the Whittington challenge was now effectively over and their plight wasn't helped by a mounting injury count.

Twelve minutes after the break and Aldridge's fifth try was provided by flanker Russ Hamilton and a similar individualistic effort produced a second score for Reed.

Substitute No8, Ashley Shingler crossed before Durant grabbed his second try right at the end.

Full back Alex Yates also had a good afternoon with the boot – converting seven of the eight tries scored.

No case to answer for the defence

Willenhall Town 0
Racing Club Warwick 7
WILLEHALL produced a shocking defensive performance as their visitors walked away with seven goals.

With a long injury list the Lockmen could at least welcome back Tom Clews in defence, though on three minutes he failed to cut out a cross from the right and Langmead helped himself to the first of his four goals.

The Lockmen forced a couple of corners after the visitors had hit the bar, but on 26 minutes it was 2-0 as James Dyke found the net.

It was 3-0 on 34 minutes when Langmead was left unmarked again.

Keeper Josh Woodhouse had no chance on 42 minutes when Langmead was played into the box unmarked and scored at the second attempt for his hat-trick.

Three goals around the hour mark settled the tie, Langmead grabbed his fourth, a superb volley on the turn by former Red Terry Morton on 58 minutes made it six and the final goal arrived on 62 minutes from Ciaran Houston.

The Lockmen have a free Saturday before visiting Bewdley Town on Tuesday, October 1, kick off 7.45pm.

Morris hits Villa winner

Pelsall Villa 1
Sporting Khalsa 0
THE Villains made further progress in the FA Vase with a 1-0 victory over local rivals, Sporting Khalsa thanks to a great strike from Carl Morris.

"It was a good, professional performance," said manager, Craig Timmins. "We looked solid and well organised and it didn't feel as though we were going to concede."

"Now we look forward to making further progress."

Villa now travel to Coventry Sphinx on October 19.

SPORT

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Butler did it

Boss Smith hails

Captain Fantastic

Page 51



Net gain

Hosts are beaten for contest win

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e-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

Defeat is
heaviest in
more than
70 games

Hereford 45 Walsall 0
WALSALL Rugby Club suffered their heaviest defeat for more than 70 games in Midlands One West as Hereford ran in seven tries at the Webside.

This was far from a one-sided contest as the visitors enjoyed most of the possession and territorial advantage, particularly during a first half which saw Walsall camped inside their opponents 22 for long periods.

The hosts defended well and were far more effective in using their hard won possession. They crossed for their first try after just three minutes but then had to defend, heroically at times, for the next quarter. It was late in the half before Hereford got their next score and Watters went over to complete the first half scoring.

Hereford had the crucial early scores in the second half adding two tries to lead 26-0. They added a try as a result of a prolonged drive from a lineout. But their final two scores both came as a result of Walsall attacks breaking down.

Kenilworth visit Delves Road on Saturday.

Walsall 2nds were forced to field an inexperienced team on their visit to Hereford and were well beaten, 72-0.

Walsall 3rds lost 35-15 to Handsworth seconds and the Colts went down 15-12 to Evesham.

Wednesbury were beaten 42-14 at home to Eccleshall.

Injury ends it for Taylor

ULTIMATE Fighting Championship has confirmed that UK lightweight Paul 'Relentless' Taylor is retiring due to injury.

Taylor, who has an MMA record of 11-6-1, was due to take on Anthony Njokuani at UFC Manchester 2013 in October, but injury forced him to withdraw from the bout.

Taylor, originally from Walsall, but who also trained in Liverpool, has not fought since February 2011, where he defeated Gabe Ruediger via KO at UFC 126.

Winning Fight of the Night bonuses on three occasions, Taylor was known for his exciting striking style and was a very popular fighter among UFC fans.

Taylor made his UFC debut in 2007 in Manchester at UFC 70 where he defeated Edilberto Crocota via TKO in a welterweight bout. He moved to the lightweight division in 2010.

Boxing legend Holyfield in Second City date



Boxing legend Evander Holyfield in Cannock with Bar Sport owner Scott Murray

BOXING legend Evander Holyfield will be back in the West Midlands at the start of next month as the feature attraction of a sportsman's dinner in the heart of Birmingham.

The former undisputed world heavyweight champion will be at the Second City's Holiday Inn Hotel on Smallbrook Queensway on Wednesday night, October 2.

Earlier this month he kicked off his UK tour with a date at Bar Sport, in Cannock. 'The Real Deal' was one of the most recognisable fighters of his era, turning pro at 21 after winning a bronze medal at the 1984 Olympic Games. He knocked out

Boxing

Mike Tyson's conqueror, James 'Buster' Douglas, to take all the heavyweight belts for the first time in 1990 but retired after being defeated for the titles by Michael Moorer in 1994.

He returned and engaged in two big battles with Tyson, taking the WBA crown by stoppage in 1996 and then winning by disqualification a year later, after famously having part of his ear bitten off.

He drew with Lennox Lewis in 1999 but lost a rematch eight months later, before becoming the only boxer to win a version

of the heavyweight title four times in 2000, against John Ruiz. The 50-year-old hasn't retired yet, either, last halting Dane Brian Neilsen in the 10th round in May 2011 although he hasn't competed since.

Before the evening show, Holyfield and Brum's former British middleweight champion Wayne Elcock will be visiting Birmingham Children's Hospital at 1pm to hand out presents to the patients.

Tickets to the dinner are £50, £100 and £150 – which includes a three-course meal – with prices rising for back, middle and front tier seating.

For more information, call 07976 842 383 or visit www.boxfrog.uk.com

Excellent season is celebrated

RUSHALL CC celebrated their excellent season with the presentation evening last Saturday night.

After the First XI's championship win, everybody was in good spirits.

The main awards for the night went to Andy Clayton, who celebrated his own half century this season by winning both the 1st XI batting award, and the 1st XI Players' Player. Alan Dunn picked up the 1st XI bowling award with his 43 wickets this season.

For the 2nd XI, Daz Stacy collected the Players' Player and batting award, with Matt Jones collection the bowling award.

For the Sunday XI, Scott Peach followed suit by also winning the Players' Player and batting award.

As part of the Rushall resurgence, the youth of the club was represented by Lewis Portsmouth, who pipped Jack Clayton to take the Young Player of the Season.

In the most hotly contested category Andy Callaghan just pipped several other contenders to take 'Duck of the Season', with his four no scores.

Hockey squad continues form

Bloxwich 5 Atherstone 1
BLOXWICH Mens Hockey First XI continued their strong pre-season campaign with a comfortable win over a strong Atherstone side.

Bloxwich went down easily on but Matt Baldwin brought the game back level.

Dan Mazurek and Adam Baldwin linked up well to score some excellent team goals with Lee Hale being a catalyst to a lot of the superb team passing. Eddie Marocco hammered home the final goal.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, September 26, 2013.

SMITH IS MAKING SENSE AT SADDLERS

Walsall 1 Rotherham United 1

DEAN Smith may have been accused of "talking like an idiot" but everything he does at Walsall continues to make good sense for the Saddlers.

On the surface, a point against Rotherham at The Banks's Stadium was an underwhelming follow-up after the euphoria of his team's Molineux triumph a few nights earlier.

By Martin Swain

of his Tuesday night heroes, Craig Westcarr and Ashley Hemmings, out of the firing line in recognition of their enormous labours on the flanks at Molineux and gave Romaine Sawyers and James Baxendale, who has been an eye-catching hit as an impact substitute this season, a starting chance.

For the opening half-hour Walsall struggled to prise even a yard of space from high-pressing opponents. Only on falling behind after 21 minutes, to a well-placed header from Nardiello, did the home side finally begin to establish any control.

It brought them a swift equaliser from Sam Mantom, dispatched with the help of a deflection.

But generally, the impression was of a Saddlers team handling but never quite overcoming opponents who refused to yield an inch under the relentless barking of Evans' vociferous coach Paul Rayner.

Walsall did establish more of a presence 'up top' when Westcarr and Milan Lalkovic were introduced just after the hour.

But although the threat of a Walsall winner duly gathered a little more momentum, it was still Richard O'Donnell who had to make the most important save.

Darts ace arrows in on pub's exhibition event



Scott Waites, centre, with the Lakeside trophy with Jamie Caven and Jason Evans of Darlaston

WORLD darts champion Scott Waites returned to Wolverhampton for an exhibition at a city pub.

The reigning British Darts Organisation title holder was the feature attraction alongside Professional Darts Corporation pro Jamie Caven as 210 enthusiasts packed into The Cleveland Arms with some punters playing alongside the stars, before

they went head-to-head. Adie Mason, match marker in the PDC and a Master of Ceremonies on the exhibition circuit, called the action throughout the evening.

Waites, whose parents live in Telford, regularly competes in the Grand Slam at Wolverhampton Civic Hall and lost in the 2009 final before going one better a year later. Waites,

who beat Caven 5-3 on the night, said: "Wolverhampton has always been good to me. I have been at the Cleveland for an exhibition two years in a row now and it's always fun."

Cleveland bar manager William Adamson said: "We try to put on as many events as we can."

The night raised funds for the Poppy Appeal.

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